

Mails.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD,

BREMEN.

IMPERIAL GERMAN MAIL LINE

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
NAPLES, GENOA, GIBRALTAR, SOUTHAMPTON, ANTWERP, and HAMBURG	"LUTZOW" Capt. C. Dowers	WEDNESDAY, Noon, 7th October.
SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE, and YOKOHAMA	"PRINCESS ALICE" Capt. G. Rott	About WEDNESDAY, 7th October.
MANILA, YAP, NEWGUINEA, BRISBANE, SYDNEY and MELBOURNE	"PRINZ WALDEMAR" Capt. W. v. Seiden	THURSDAY, 5 P.M., 8th October.
KUDAT and SANDAKAN	"BORNEO" Capt. F. Sembill	Middle of October.

For further Particulars, apply to

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

MELCHERS & CO.,

GENERAL AGENTS, HONGKONG & CHINA.

Hongkong, 25th September, 1908.

[8]

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

FRENCH MAIL LINES.

FORTNIGHTLY SERVICE TO and FROM EUROPE via SUEZ CANAL.
TO and FROM JAPAN via SHANGHAI.

FOR	STEAMERS	CAPTAINS	TO SAIL ON
SHANGHAI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA	CALEDONNIEN	Martin	28th Sept., P.M.
MARSEILLES, VIA PORTS	ERNEST SIMONS	Girard	29th Sept., at 1 P.M.
SHANGHAI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA	POLYNESIEN	Broc	12th Oct., P.M.
MARSEILLES, VIA PORTS	VILLE DE LA CROIX	Barilbo	13th Oct., at 1 P.M.

Transshipment on the Co's Steamers at Singapore for Batavia; at Colombo for Calcutta, Bombay and Australia; at Port Said for the Levant, Constantinople and Black Sea.

Through Tickets to London via Paris from £27.10 to £31.10—20 hours' railway from Marseilles to London.

Interpreters meet passengers at their arrival in Marseilles.

For further particulars, apply to

P. NALIN,
ACTING AGENT,

QUEEN'S BUILDINGS.

Hongkong, 14th September, 1908.

[14]

CHARGEURS REUNIS.

FRENCH STEAMSHIP Co.—HEAD OFFICE: PARIS.

ALL ROUND THE WORLD LINE.

Outward: ANTWERP, DUNKIRK, LA PALICE, MARSEILLES, GENOA, NAPLES, COLOMBO, via SUEZ, SINGAPORE, HONGKONG, CHINA, WANTAO (Peking, Tientsin), KOBE, YOKOHAMA.

GENOA TO HONGKONG IN 30 DAYS.

NAPLES

Unique opportunity to make a tour in North-China and Japan with the Greatest Speed and Comfort.

Trans-Pacific: VICTORIA (B.C.), VANCOUVER, SEATTLE, SAN FRANCISCO. Connecting with the Canadian Pacific Railway.

FREIGHT TO OVERLAND via VANCOUVER.

PASSENGERS TO OVERLAND AND EUROPE via VANCOUVER.

YOKOHAMA—VANCOUVER 13 Days.

LONDON AND PARIS 26

Homeward: MEXICO, RIVER PLATE, BRAZIL, LA PALICE, LIVERPOOL, via MAGELLAN STRAITS.

Proposed Sailings:

* AMIRAL OLR 12th Oct.	* CORSE 11th Jan., 1909.
* OBYLAN 26th Nov.	

New Twin Screw 16,000 Tons displacement, 1st class accommodation, splendidly equipped with single berth cabins.
Intermediate class and rates of passage.
All round the world ticket by these boats, &c.

For further Particulars, apply to

P. NALIN, FRENCH MAIL OFFICE.

[16]

WEST RIVER BRITISH STEAMSHIP COMPANIES.

HONGKONG-WUCHOW LINE.

THE Steamers "LINTAN" and "SAN-UI" sail from HONGKONG TWICE A WEEK and COMPLETE THE ROUND TRIP IN 4 DAYS. These steamers have Excellent Saloon Accommodation, and are Lighted Throughout by Electricity.
THE CLIMATE ON THE WEST RIVER DURING THE WINTER MONTHS IS VERY FINE AND EXHILARATING.

For further information apply to—

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,

AGENTS,

WEST RIVER BRITISH S.S. COMPANIES.

Hongkong, 26th March, 1908.

[19]

Intimation.

THE YOKOHAMA DOCK CO., LTD.

No. 1 DOCK.

Length inside 514 ft. Width of entrance, top 95 ft.; bottom 75 ft. Water on blocks, 27.5 ft. Time to pump out, 4 hours.

No. 2 DOCK.

Length inside, 375 ft. Width of entrance, top 80.5 ft. bottom 45.8 ft. Water on blocks, 26.5 ft. Time to pump out, 3 hours.

THESE DOCKS are conveniently situated in Yokohama harbour and the attention of Captains and Engineers is respectfully called to the advantages offered for Docking and repairing Vessels and Machinery of every description.

The plant and tools are of recent pattern for dealing quickly and cheaply with work and a large stock of material is always at hand, (plates and angles all being tested by Lloyd's surveyors).

Two powerful Twin Screw Tugs are available for taking Vessels in or out of Dock, and for taking Sailing Vessels in or out of the bay. The floating derrick is capable of lifting 35 tons.

Steam Launches of Steel or Wood, Lighters, Steel Buildings and Roofs, Bridge Work, and all kinds of Machinery are made on the premises.

Tenders will be made up when required and the workmanship and material will be guaranteed.

The cost of Docking, and repair work, will be found to compare favourably with that of any port in the world.

Telephone: Nos. 876, 608, or 681.

Telegrams, "Dock, Yokohama," Codes A. B. C. 4th and 5th Edt.

Liebers, Scotts, A. I. and Watkins.

Yokohama, May 23rd, 1905.

[39]

Shipping—Steamers.

JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LINE

REGULAR—THREE-WEEKLY SERVICE

BETWEEN

JAVA, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

Steamer	From	Expected on or about	Will leave for	On or about
TJIBODAS	JAPAN	Second half Sept.	JAVA	Second half Sept.
TJILIWONG	JAVA	First half Oct.	SHANGHAI	First half Oct.
TJIPANAS	JAPAN	Second half Oct.	JAVA	Second half Oct.
TJILATJAP	JAVA	Second half Oct.	SHANGHAI	Second half Oct.
TJIKINI	JAVA	Second half Oct.	JAPAN	Second half Oct.
TJIMAH	JAVA	First half Nov.	SHANGHAI	First half Nov.

The Steamers are all fitted throughout with Electric Light and have Accommodation for a limited number of Saloon Passengers, and will take Cargo to all Netherland India Ports on through Bills of Lading.

For Particulars of Freight and Passage, apply to

JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LINE.

Telephone No. 375.

YORK BUILDINGS, 1st floor,

Hongkong, 25th September, 1908.

[16]

MESSAGERIES CANTONNAISES.

FRENCH LINE OF STEAMERS BETWEEN HONGKONG, CANTON AND KOUANG-SI.

S.S. "PAUL BEAU," 1,900 tons, 14 knots.

S.S. "CHARLES HARDOUIN," 1,900 tons, 14 knots.

The speediest, most luxuriously appointed and punctual steamers on the line.

Departure from Hongkong at 10 P.M. (Saturdays excepted).

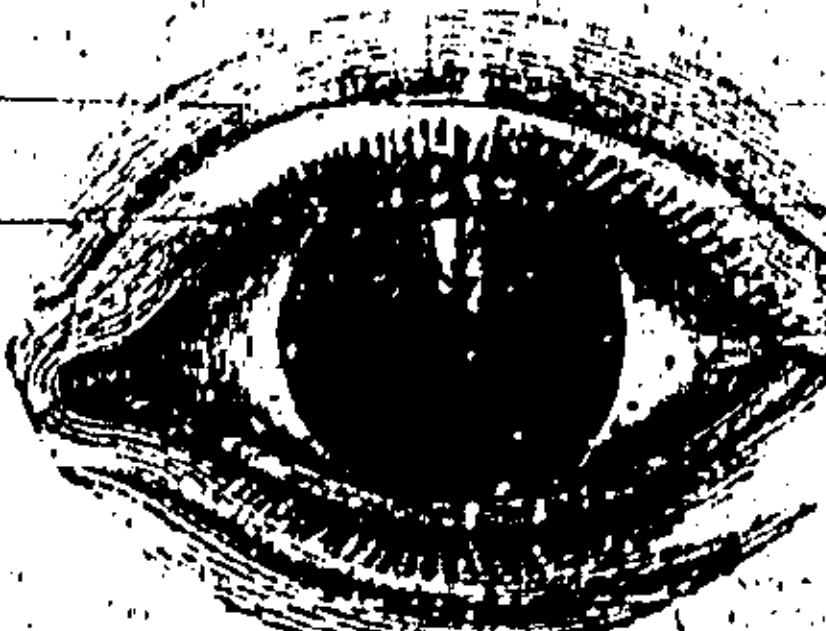
Departure from Canton at 5.15 P.M. (Sundays excepted).

These superb steamers carrying the French Mail are fitted throughout with Electric Light and Fans and were specially built for this trade. Excellent cuisine.
The Company's Own Wharf near Wing Lok Street.
Canton Agents—Messrs. E. Pasquet & Co.
For further particulars, please apply to—BARRETTO & CO.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 28th March, 1908.

[12]

EYES



RIGHT!

N. LAZARUS, OPHTHALMIC OPTICIAN,
CORNER OF D'AGUIAR STREET AND QUEEN'S ROAD.

Will test your eyes free of charge, and if they are wrong will put them right.

Lenses Ground. All kinds of Repairs. Spectacles for all requirements.

Ask, or write for Illustrated Booklet on "Defective Sight"—free.

LONDON, CALCUTTA, SHANGHAI,
21, John Street, Bedford Row, W.C. 59, Beaufort Street, 566, Nanjing Road.

Hongkong, 4th March 1908.

TO LET OR RENT—A FORT.

Notice is hereby given that the lease for 50 years will be put up to auction of all that piece of land known as the old fort at Tanjong Katong, having an area of eight acres and nine poles. Upset price \$3,200 a year. Lessee must build an hotel capable of accommodating 100 persons within two years. The land shall be used for the purpose of an hotel only.

Such is the main purport of an advertisement which drew the attention of speculators in Hotel property to the Land Office, Singapore, yesterday (16th September). What happened is soon told. One gentleman pointed out that there was no public road to the Fort, and that there would not be one till (said with severity) "the Municipality carry out their obligation and complete the road they have promised to make." The gentleman in charge of the sale, with great suavity, said that no doubt the Municipality would carry out its obligations, and disposed of that objection. Another practical prospective bidder—prospective at that time, for subsequently he did not eventuate in the bidding capcity—asked whether the Government would guarantee a license from the Licensing Justice, without which a hotel could not be carried on. "It might be assumed that the Licensing Justice would grant a license; but of course the Government could not guarantee that." That was no obstacle to bidding. "What sort of a hotel would the Government insist on?" was the question of another prospective (at this stage) bidder. "Oh, of course, it would not be a Hotel de l'Europe. The plans must be passed by the Municipality. But a sort of bungalow hotel would be the thing—Government would not be strict on a hotel built on town lines. And then further suggestions were made that it might be made into a sort of—but here official discretion stopped in; and we may not divulge what plans might have been considered to make Tanjong Katong the Orend of the Straits. It was only a mile and a half from the Trams, a fashionable mode of conveyance, and 34 miles from Town, when the new road, started five years ago, was finished. What about the old fosse? There would not be any difficulty about that. The lessee might fill it up; or convert it into the fish market of the Hotel; or use it for penny steamboat rides. Mosquitoes? Oh, that is a question of taste. There was a solid silence when bids were asked for, except when a half-muttered calculation was made something to this effect: \$150,000 for building; eight per cent. \$1,000 a month; add \$167 a month for rent; profit needed \$7,367 a month; 100 guests; couldn't get 'em; more likely fifty; profit per guest \$15.34 a month—and a long sigh indicated that the calculator did not see his way. No bids? The Government has had an offer of \$3,100 per annum (credulity expressed) and wants to know if anything further is offered. Still no bids. Auction closes.

This of course is all extremely mercenary and distasteful about the only Mosted Grange we have in the Island (if a Chinese house in Mr. Echo's is excepted, which is a toy). The history of Fort Tanjong Katong is interesting. Soon after the foundation of the City, there was built Fort Fullerton on the south side of the river, and its old foundations are even now vexing the practical soul of the contractor of the new bridge. Battery rd led to the Fort and the trees grew where the festive slug is now quaffed, and unfortunate sailor men are haled up on matters concerning their tickets. History does not relate where the old Post Office stood, but it was probably near the Central Police station. Anyhow the spit of land that ran to Fort Fullerton was a pleasant shady path which lads and lasses used. It was, in short, the only fort of the place at the time. Some time in the seventies, Singapore came into notoriety as a cooling station of Imperial importance, and of course country lanes leading to forts were impossible. The Islands must be fortified. And Fort Palmer, Henry Edward McCallum set to work and devised so wondrous a series of island forts that for many years the Imperial Government could not see its way to find guns for them; and it was only when the Editor of the Free Press paid out of his own pocket for a standing advertisement in the London papers "When shall Singapore at last get its long-promised gun," that Worlwich responded. Then some wise City Father in his after tiffin cogitation, asked himself, "And where would the Town be if a cruiser anchored in the Harbour and shelled my godown?" And he took it so much to heart that he got up an agitation for a Fort to protect the Town. Those wicked military authorities put a tongue in the left cheek. Ah, yes. Bai Jov, we forgot it. You shall have a fort at Tanjong Katong, and two lovely eight inch guns that China now cannot afford to pay for, and we don't want to get to China. So Fort Tanjong Katong was duly constructed—with the Colony's money; well constructed, as the Engineer Volunteers found when they tried to blow up some of it. And all the while it was down in the scheme of defences that Tanjong Katong was to be immediately abandoned in case of attack! Still the Volunteer Artillery used to go over there and have a very good time at the Camp. They had a dance in the old Tanjong Katong Hotel—and a very fine dance it was, with a specially constructed temporary pier, of a most delusive crookedness after 2 a.m. The S.V.A. had firing practice there, and for many years signs of their prowess were to be seen in a half-moon bitten out of the teak semaphore that had been erected to make the thing look soldier-like. The hill was made in this way. The officer in charge of the gun reported that the target was partially obstructed by the semaphore. There was a sporting Governor and a sporting G.O.C. at that time. One said "Nonsense." The other said "Bet you five dollars it don't clear." The word was given, the gun was fired, the shot bit the semaphore, and five dollars passed.

Such are some of the memories of Fort Tanjong Katong—a sop to the fears of ignorant townpeople. But not bid for at an auction as a sea-side resort, till times are better and that road is made.

W. M. in Singapore Free Press.

Intimations.

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

MR. C. PEMBERTON has been appointed SECRETARY to the Company from this date.

E. SHELLIN, Chairman.

Hongkong, 24th September, 1908. [869]

KOWLOON CRICKET CLUB.

THE EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of Members will be held in the CLUB PAVILION on MONDAY, 28th inst., at 5.15 P.M.

BUSINESS.

As set out on the Notice Board.

T. CHEE, Hon. Sec.

Hongkong, 25th September, 1908. [871]

KOWLOON CRICKET CLUB.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of Members, advertised for the 26th inst., has been POSTPONED until further notice.

T. CHEE, Hon. Sec.

Hongkong, 25th September, 1908. [871]

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

NOTICE.

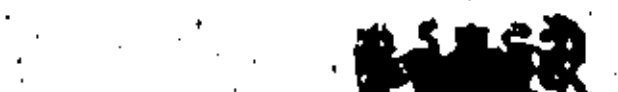
THE HALF-YEARLY MEETING of the above Club will be held on SATURDAY, the 3rd October, at 1.30 P.M., at the Office of the JOCKEY CLUB on the Ground floor of the Hongkong Club Annex, Chater Road.

By Order,

T. F. HOUGH,

Clerk of the Course.

Hongkong, 22nd September, 1908. [861]



COLONIAL SECRETARY'S DEPARTMENT.

No. 653.—With reference to Government Notification No. 491 of 13th July, 1908, which is hereby cancelled, it is notified that, on and after 1st January, 1909, the Fee (payable monthly) at Queen's College will be \$48 per annum in all classes.

F. H. MAY, Colonial Secretary.

Hongkong, 15th September, 1908. [859]

FRENCH STORE

(late A. Chazalon & Co.),

6, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

HAVE just received a Fresh Assortment of AMERICAN GOODS comprising the following:—

SALT—HERRINGS, MACKERELS,

SALMON BELLIES, CADDISH

BLOCKS, SPICED NORWEGIAN

ANCHOVIES, SARDELES,

CANNED FRUITS, ASPARAGUS,

&c., &c., &c.

Hongkong, 22nd August, 1908. [10]

PAEST BREWING COMPANY, MILWAUKEE.

FRESH SUPPLIES ALWAYS KEPT IN STOCK

BY

SIEMSEN & Co.,

Agents for HONGKONG & SOUTH CHINA.

Hongkong, 20th July, 1907. [11]

RARE COPPER AND SILVER COINS. FOR SALE.

A MOST Valuable, and Rare Collection of the Ancient COINS consisting of those of the SASSANIAN, GREEK, ROMAN, BYZANTINE, and SCYTHIAN, and EARLY HINDU DYNASTIES. THE SUITORS OF DELHI (including Pathan and Suri Kings) and of KASHMIR, THE MOGHUL EMPERORS, THE AMIRS of AFGHANISTAN and of BUKHARA, THE SHAHS of PERSIA, TOGETHER WITH OTHER MISCELLANEOUS COINS OF GREAT NUMISMATIC INTEREST, BEAUTY AND RARITY.

Apply to—

I. U. MIRZA,

Supreme Court, Hongkong.

Hongkong, 14th August, 1908. [71]

THERAPION MAY NOW ALSO BE OBTAINED IN DRACKE (TASTELESS) FORM.

A BROKEN-DOWN SYSTEM.

This is a condition (or disease) which doctors give many names, but which few of them really understand. It is simply weakness in the system. No matter what may be its cause (for they are almost numberless), its symptoms are the same: the more prominent being sleeplessness, a sense of prostration, loss of energy, and a general feeling of exhaustion. Now, what ails the broken-down system? It is a lack of VITAL STRENGTH & ENERGY. To throw off these morbid feelings, and experience proves that as night succeeds the day this may be more certainly secured by a course of THE NEW FRENCH REMEDY THERAPION No. 3.

This is by no means a new combination. So surely as it is taken, its efficacy with the precise directions accompanying it, will be the assured result. THE EXPIRING LAMP OF LIFE IS LIGHTED UP AGAIN. A new salience imparted in place of what had so lately seemed worn-out and exhausted. This wonderful medicine is purely vegetable and innocuous, is agreeable to the taste, suitable for all constitutions, and conditions, in either sex, and it is difficult to imagine a case of disease or derangement, whose main feature is a loss of vitality, that will not be speedily and permanently benefited by this new-fangled recuperative essence, which is destined to cast into oblivion everything that had preceded it for this wide-spread and numerous class of human ailments.

THERAPION is sold by Chemists throughout the world. Price in England, 1/6 per packet. Purchasers should see that the word "THERAPION" appears on British Government Stamp (in white letters on a red ground) affixed to every package by order of His Majesty's Stationery Office, and that it is a genuine THERAPION.

Sole Agent, W. M. in Singapore Free Press.

Intimation.

Wm. Powell, Ltd.,
ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS.

FURNISHING DEPARTMENT.

[Lift to First Floor.]

Important Display of Furnishing Fabrics.

BROCADES, TAPESTRIES, DAMASKS.

Special Attention to Coast Orders.

CHINTZES, GRETTONNES, CASEMENT CLOTHS.

Artistic and Exclusive Stock.

Wm. Powell, Ltd.,
General Drapers, Furnishers,
Des Voeux Road,
and
28, Queen's Road,
HONGKONG.

Hongkong, 22nd September, 1908.

Auctions.

PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS OF the letting by Public Auction Sale, to be held on MONDAY, the 28th day of September, 1908, at 3 P.M., at the Office of the Public Works Department, by Order of His Excellency the Governor, of One Lot of CROWN LAND at Kai Lung Wai, in the Colony of Hongkong, for a term of 75 years.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT.

No. of Sale	Boundary Measurements	Contents in Acres	Annual Rent	Upset Price
1	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
3	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
4	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
5	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
6	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
7	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
8	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
9	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
10	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
11	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
12	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
13	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
14	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
15	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
16	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
17	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
18	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
19	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
20	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
21	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
22	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
23	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
24	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
25	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
26	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
27	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
28	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
29	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
30	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
31	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
32	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
33	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
34	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
35	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
36	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
37	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
38	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
39	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
40	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
41	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
42	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
43	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
44	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
45	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
46	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
47	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
48	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
49	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
50	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
51	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
52	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
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61	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
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64	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
65	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
66	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
67	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
68	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
69	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
70	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
71	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
72	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
73	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
74	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2
75	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE undersigned have received instructions to sell by PUBLIC AUCTION, FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED, ON

TUESDAY,

the 29th September, 1908, at 2.30 P.M., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Voeux Road, corner of Ice House Street,

AN ASSORTMENT OF JAPANESE CURIOS.

Comprising—
ANTIMONY WARE, BRONZE FIGURES, JAPANESE SWORDS, SATSUMA WARE, OLD CLOCKS, CARVED IVORY FIGURES, &c., &c.
TERMS—As usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, 24th September, 1908. [868]

Intimations.

THE IMPERIAL COLONIAL CLUB.

THE above Club is formed chiefly for COLONIAL and OVER-SEAS MEMBERS; it is situated at No. 8, Piccadilly (the centre of Clubland), opposite the Green Park. The Club has a Bridge Section, Reception, Dining, Billiard Room, Smoking Lounge, Reading Room and Library.

Ladies are eligible as Members.
Entrance Fee, Five Guinea; Annual Subscription, Five Guinea.

Further particulars from
THE ORGANISING SECRETARY,
84, Piccadilly, W.

London, 19th August, 1908. [769]

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

In Casks of 375 lbs. net \$5.50 per Cask ex Factory.

In Bags of 50 lbs. net \$8.45 per Bag ex Factory.

SHEWAN TOMES & Co.,
General Managers
Hongkong, 15th August, 1908. [755]

PEAK TRAMWAYS COMPANY, LIMITED.

TIME TABLE.

WEEK DAYS.

7.00 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
9.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. Every 15 minutes.
11.00 a.m. to 12.45 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
12.45 p.m. to 1.15 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
1.15 p.m. to 1.45 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
1.45 p.m. to 2.15 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
2.15 p.m. to 3.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
3.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
5.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.

NIGHT CARS.

At 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. at 11.15 p.m. every half hour.

SUNDAYS.

5.00 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. Every 15 minutes.
9.00 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. Every 30 minutes.
9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. Every 15 minutes.
10.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
11.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon Every 15 minutes.
12.00 noon to 1.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
1.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
5.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
6.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
7.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.

NIGHT CARS on Week Days.

Leave at 11.15 p.m., 11.30 p.m., and 11.45 p.m.

SPECIAL CARS by Arrangement at the Company's Office, ALYDENE BUILDING, Des Voeux Road Central.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 24th September, 1908. [755]

D. NOMA,

PROFESSIONAL TATTOOER

AND
THE EXPERT REMOVER OF TATTOO MARKS,
No. 60 QUEEN'S ROAD, CENTRAL.

PATRONISED BY Prince of Wales, then H. R. H. The Duke of York, and H. R. H. The Emperor of Russia, and having 4,500 testimonials from all sources.

My 34 years' experience in tattooing is a guarantee of good work and prompt execution. My colours are absolutely fast and perfectly harmless, and produce a charming effect not attained by any other, as their composition is only known to me. In tattooing unlike some species of engraving, care must be taken to have the work done in a perfectly high toned manner. In order to take special precaution against possible dangers I use fresh materials daily.

The copying of Portraits with distinct minutiae a speciality.
Hongkong, 1st September, 1908. [764]

CAPE TOWN TO JAPAN ON A CYCLE.

Some months ago, mention was made of the remarkable ride just entered upon by Captain Carter, who started from Cape Town in November, on a journey to Japan. Later news of his wanderings has just come to hand. He has cycled through the heart of Africa, and has experienced many stirring adventures, even before leaving civilisation behind at Salisbury. On entering Portuguese territory he found the natives (far from friendly) and he pushed on into German East Africa. There also the natives made themselves unpleasant. They had never seen a cycle before, and amused him and accommodated him. A hospitable as the region was Captain Carter had yet to face the worst part of his journey. Flooded rivers were bad enough, but the unlooked-for attentions of wild animals were even more disconcerting. To make matters worse the rider sustained a bad fall, dislocating both wrists and the right shoulder, and damaging his machine. After being pitched up he proceeded to the Congo Free State. The pigmies tolerated him at first, and even smiled affably when he fell into a stream or met with other mishap; but presently they became decidedly hostile. They shot at him, puncturing his tyres with their arrows, one of which wounded himself. But, apparently, some of them did not approve of this attitude, and when he was stricken with fever they sent news of him "up river," with the result that some British officers came to his assistance. When he felt well enough to resume his journey the intrepid rider once more left Gondokoro for Khartoum, on June 27. This is the first occasion on which a cyclist has traversed the heart of Africa alone. Captain Carter writes: "The country I traversed was terrible. I had to travel on foot and carry my cycle and load for about 47 miles previous to my arrival at Gondokoro." The captain intends cycling through Persia, India, and China to Japan.

POISONOUS PLANTS.

Mr. John R. Jackson A.L.S., late Keeper of the Museum, Royal Gardens, Kew, writes thus on the subject of "Poisonous Plants," in reference to a previous communication by Sir E. Ray Lankester, appearing in the *Daily Telegraph*. Readers may not be fully aware that the tapioca, which is a common article of Straits produce, is an identical with the product of Cassava or Manioc as plentifully grown in the West Indies. The milky acid juice which is found throughout the whole plant is a deadly poison in its fresh state, owing to the presence of hydrocyanic acid. But this is rapidly driven off by the application of heat. Mr. Jackson's letter proceeds thus:—

Sir E. Ray Lankester's article on the subject of the poison-vice of America (Rhus toxicodendron) is one full of interest and suggestions, treating as it does incidentally of other poisonous plants, and raising interest in the popular mind in many important scientific and commercial facts. At the present time, when so much is being done for the advancement of scientific knowledge by the extension of the University system in our commercial centres—Leeds for the latest example—it is opportune that such articles as those which Sir E. Ray Lankester has been contributing to your columns, written as they are in a style that appeals to the general reader, should be provided by the daily Press. Science and commerce have long been united, and, indeed, dependent upon each other, but never more intimately than they are at the present time. The unscientific public, however, know but little of his relationship, the origin and nature of numerous articles of daily use are unknown, and, indeed, unthought of. They are handled daily in the course of trade, but no thought is given as to the source whence they come. To the average man—

"A primrose by the river's brim,
A yellow primrose is to him,
And it is nothing more."

And, with slight alteration, these lines might be well applied to the ordinary man of commerce, as well as to a very large number of people who claim to be considered amongst the intellectual classes. Besides the actual possession of knowledge on these points, which give an insight into the pleasure, there are often, in addition, pecuniary advantages to be gained, as will be seen from the following account of a wholesale poisoning of tram horses, which occurred some years ago, if I remember rightly, at Bristol; in the days before electric trams were become general.

BRISTOL TRAM HORSES AND THEIR FOOD.

Several horses, while on their journeys, were observed to stagger and become powerless, as though suffering from paralysis. The intensity of the attacks increased; in some instances the animal would spring to its feet and fall flat in the road, and in other cases, without warning, would drop dead. A large number of horses were in this way lost. Upon examination of the food upon which the horses were fed, it was found that the contractors who supplied the food to the tramway company had furnished a large quantity of Indian peas or vetches, which, unknown to them, were of a poisonous nature if eaten in large quantities. The peas themselves were quite small, but had a very bad taste, so that it is difficult to properly cook for human consumption, though it is used as food by some of the tribes in India. It is a well-known fact that where the poison is of a volatile nature the application of heat entirely dissipates it, a good illustration of which is to be found in the root of the Bitter Cassava, or Manihot (Manihot utilisima), a Brazilian plant belonging to the poisonous order Euphorbiaceae, and now largely cultivated in the Straits Settlements for the sake of the starch matter contained in its large, fleshy root which when washed, peeled, and dried, forms the staple of commerce. The India pea, however, which is

the "khesari" of the natives, and the Lathyrus sativus of botanists, is always looked upon as a suspicious food, the introduction of which into the tramway horse fodder added to an expensive action brought by the tramway company. Samples were submitted to Kew for determination of the exact scientific name of the plant, and several scientific men were summoned to give evidence. A great deal of this trouble would have been avoided had the importers, or contractors, or some of the numerous people through whose hands the peas passed before reaching the stable, been able to identify their scientific name, or possessed a knowledge of their poisonous nature, thus bringing science into practical harmony with commerce.

SECRET OF JAPANESE LACQUER.

I may perhaps be allowed to give another illustration of this, founded on Sir E. Ray Lankester's own words, where he incidentally says that one of the poisonous species of Rhus is the source of a "resinous varnish which is used in the manufacture of lacquered articles." In this he is referring to what is known as Japanese lacquer, the produce of Rhus vernicifera. So poisonous is this juice that in tapping the trees to collect it in pots the people cover their hands with thick woollen gloves to prevent it falling on the skin and blistering it. All the fine, old, and valuable Japanese lacquer work now in our museums, as well as the modern Japanese trays, boxes, and other similar articles now so abundant in English trade, are coated with this lacquer. A large, complete, and very instructive collection illustrating this interesting manufacture may be seen in Museum No. 1 in the Royal Gardens, Kew. As a new kind of lacquer-paint has lately been introduced to English trade, it is to be hoped that if Japanese lacquer forms any part of it the users will be free from any evil consequences.

To Let.

TO LET.

HATHERLEIGH, CONDUIT ROAD.
A HOUSE in WONG-NEI-CHONG ROAD.
A HOUSE in RYON TERRACE.
OFFICES in YORK BUILDING.
GODOWNS in PRAYA EAST, BLUE BUILDINGS, and No. 162, DES VOEUX ROAD next to the Hongkong Hotel.
FLATS in MORETON TERRACE.
No. 10, DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL, 1st Floor.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LD.
Hongkong, 1st September, 1908. [16]

TO LET.

GODOWN No. 5A, DUNDRELL STREET.
Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LD.
Hongkong, 1st September, 1908. [493]

TO LET.

A HOUSE in KNUTSFORD TERRACE, Kowloon.
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THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LD.
Hongkong, 1st September, 1908. [159]

TO LET.

FIRST FLOOR of No. 6, QUEEN'S ROAD, Central, containing 6 Rooms and Servants' Quarter.
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DAVID SASSOON & Co., LD.
Hongkong, 22nd May, 1908. [757]

TO LET.

OFFICES and ROOMS on the 1st and 2nd Floors of No. 14, Des Voeux Road Central (formerly occupied by Messrs. Shawan, Tomes & Co.).
Apply to—
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Queen's Road Central.
Hongkong, 9th June, 1908. [188]

TO LET.

HOUSES in AUSTIN AVENUE, Kowloon at \$45 plus taxes per month.
Immediate possession.
Apply to—
A. RAYMOND,
C/o S. J. David & Co.,
Hongkong, 24th July, 1908. [601]

THE RAPID MAY NOW ALSO BE OBTAINED IN DRAGON (TASTELESS) FORM.

SELF CURE NO. 1 FICION! MARVEL UPON MARVEL!

NO SUFFERER NOW DESPAIR, saying a doctor's bill or fall in into the hands of a quack, and only cure himself with the RAPID, and party. By the introduction of NEW PREVENTIVE REMEDY.

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Intimations.

DONE BY TRYING.

Nobody can tell what he can do till he tries. When a thing ought to be done the modern spirit moves us to keep working away at it until it is done. In the face of this idea the "impossible" vanishes. Where there's a will, there's a way. "If we could but rob cod liver oil of its sickening taste and smell and then combine it with two or three other ingredients we should possess the best remedy in the world for certain diseases that are now practically incurable." So said a famous English physician twenty-five years ago. "But it will never be done," he added. "You can no more turn cod liver oil into a pleasant palatable medicine, than you can turn the Codfish itself into a Bird of Paradise." Yet he lived to admit that in

WAMPOL'S PREPARATION

the "impossible" had been accomplished. It is palatable as honey and contains all the nutritive and curative properties of Pure Cod Liver Oil, extracted by us from fresh cod livers, combined with the Compound Syrup of Hypophosphites, Extracts of Malt and Wild Cherry. This remedy is freed from the bad peculiarities Dr. Frothingham so detested, and it is precisely the splendid medicine he wished for. Use it freely and confidently for Anemia, Hysteria, Wasting Complaints, Blood Impurities, Asthma, and Throat and Lung Troubles, Dr. W. H. B. Atkins, F. R. C. P., London, M. D. C. M., Victoria University, M. B., Toronto University, Consulting Physician to Home for Incurables, Physician to Toronto General Hospital, says: "I am much pleased to state that the results from using Wampol's Preparation of Cod Liver Oil have been uniformly satisfactory; it appealed to me as being prepared according to correct scientific principles." It increases the appetite and influences the digestion of food; it is delicious to take, will not disappoint you and is effective from the first dose. "It represents the dawn of progress." At chemists everywhere.

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H. M. NAVAL YARD of the under-mentioned Timber Materials for one year from 1st October, 1908, viz:—

TEAK
AMERICAN FIR or
OREGON PINE
CANPHER WOOD
HARDWOODS

BAULK, THICKSTUFF, SCANTLING, PLANK, AND BOARD.

Form of Tender, and information in regard to the conditions of contract, &c., can be obtained on application to the NAVAL STORE OFFICER, H. M. Naval Yard. A deposit of one hundred dollars will be required with each tender, but this will be returned on the acceptance or rejection of the same. The Tenders, which will be received till noon on 1st proximo, should be sealed and addressed to the Naval Store Officer, H. M. Naval Yard. The lowest or any Tender will not necessarily be accepted.

H. RISSLAND,
Naval Store Officer.
Hongkong, 16th September, 1908. [862]

THE CHINA PROVIDENT LOAN AND MORTGAGE CO., LD.

(CAPITAL PAID UP \$1,250,000)

Loans on Mortgage of House Property, &c. Goods received on Storage. Advances made on Merchandise. Loans made on the Provident System. (Rates and Particulars on application).

THE OFFICE OF TRUSTEE, EXECUTOR OF WILLS, ATTORNEY, &c., Undertaken and Executed.

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co., General Managers.
Hongkong, 10th March, 1908. [18]

Telephone: 482. Telegrams: "Cyclometer."

CONTINENTAL AND HOME RATES.

IMPORT AGENTS FOR

Motor Cars,
Cycles,
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DRAGON CYCLE DEPOT,

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Intimations.

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VERY OLD LIQUEUR

SCOTCH
WHISKY

A Blend of the Finest Pure-Malt

Whiskies distilled in Scotland

GENUINE AGE

FINE MELLOW
FLAVOUR.

Per Dozen - - \$16.50

RAINIER BEER

LIGHT, wholesome, and
invigoratingUndoubtedly the best Beer
brewed in AmericaA. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED.THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,
Hongkong, 5th September, 1908.

NOTICE.

All communications intended for publication in "THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" should be addressed to The Editor, 1, Ice House Road, and should be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address.

Ordinary business communications should be addressed to The Manager.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MS., nor to return any Contribution.

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Single Copies, Daily, ten cents; Weekly, twenty-five cents.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1908.

A RUMOUR.

A rumour was in circulation in the Colony to-day to the effect that a severe typhoon had struck the Philippine Islands yesterday, and that over 10,000 casualties have been reported. The worst damage, it was persistently rumoured locally, was done in the provinces. It is sincerely to be trusted that the evil report, which has apparently travelled wide and fast, has no foundation in fact.

Inquiries made by our staff, at all the centres of likely information concerning the Philippines, have elicited no confirmation of the rumour. The American Consul-General (Mr. Amos P. Wilder) stated, in answer to our question, that he had heard the rumour, but had not received any advice from the officials in Manila. Later in the afternoon, however, Mr. Wilder courteously informed us that he had had telegrams from Manila, but none made any reference to the rumoured disaster. Most of the shipping firms in the Colony, having boats running to Manila, have had no news in corroboration of the report. The departure of one steamer from Manila this morning for Hongkong was advised to a local shipping firm. In which quarter the rumour originated it has not been ascertained. The community of Hongkong will be relieved to learn that latest official information to reach Hongkong happily makes no reference to any catastrophe having overtaken the capital of the Philippines, though it is not at all improbable that some of the insular districts might have been visited by a typhoon of more or less great severity.

The "Paul Beau" Affair.

THREATENED ACTION FOR
SLANDER

AGAINST THE FRENCH CONSUL.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 28th September.

During the past few days despatches have been exchanged between H.E. the Viceroy Chang Jen Chun and the French Consul at Canton concerning the *Paul Beau* case. The Viceroy, the other day, made another representation to the French Consul in which His Excellency assured the Consul that the robbers that were arrested on board the *s.s. Paul Beau* and were subsequently released on the protest of the French Vice-Consul were comrades of the robber chief Luk Lan Ching. They are also supposed to have been the authors of the blackmailing letters to the foreign firms in the Shamonee, and they were also alleged to have taken part in the *Siam* piracy. The Viceroy was greatly incensed at the release of these badly wanted malefactors and he therefore persists in his request to the Consul to hand over the evil-doers.

In reference to the communication in which the French Consul informed the Viceroy that Kwong Hung Yau, a member of the local gentry, was alleged to have attempted to stir up public feeling against the French by proposing to convene a public meeting, Mr. Kong Hung Yau, besides making a statement to the Kwangchow Prefect in denial of the allegation, has now sent a letter to the French Consul. His letter is freely translated to read as follows:—"The *Paul Beau* case is of a foreign nature and is to be settled by the officials of the two countries concerned according to Treaty provisions and I am quite aware that I should not interfere with it in any way. I can say I am not ignorant of the laws and justice and am also rather well known to most members of both foreign and Chinese communities as well as to yourself and your Vice-Consul. I think I am quite at a loss to understand the alleged charges against me of convening meetings to protest against your action, as you have pointed out in your communication to the Viceroy. I would like to know whether you can point out where I have been actually convening meetings and whom I have invited to attend. You are supposed to have gathered information not from reliable sources but from some persons who intended to ruin me. I now beg to inform you that I have been defamed to a great extent by these alleged charges that you have wrongfully laid against me; and for which action I do not feel reluctant in claiming damages. I have already sent to the Kwangchow Prefect, a declaration of denial of these alleged charges for transmission to the Viceroy for his information and am now again writing this to you to explain myself with the true facts. At present, I am busily engaged in preparing for my departure to Shanghai on the 26th instant by the *s.s. Ching*. On my return I will one day call on you to discuss the matter in order to find out the wrong and right of the case and to bring about a satisfactory understanding, as I cannot hold my tongue from complaining against you for these wrongful charges."

As the outcome of the *Paul Beau* case the Viceroy has wired to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs asking the Waiyupu to draw up special regulations with the different foreign ministers in Peking to be observed by Chinese officers in the future in raiding foreign vessels at the different Treaty Ports to arrest robbers, etc., in order to prevent misunderstandings.

ROBINSON PIANO CO., LD.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The 8th ordinary annual meeting was held on 24th instant, when the report and accounts for the half year, ended 30th September, 1907, were passed. The profits for the half year amounted to \$17,947.15, of which \$16,109.66 have been written off for depreciation, bad and doubtful debts, audit fees (\$600) and general manager's remuneration, leaving \$1,837.49, to which is to be added the amount brought forward from March, 1907 (\$2,254.97), and exchange adjustment account (\$1,415.55) making an available total of \$5,508.01. This has been dealt with as follows: a dividend of 6 per cent. for the half year paid yesterday and absorbing \$5,000, the sum of \$500 carried to reserve fund, and the balance of \$5,234.01 carried forward to new account. The balance sheet on 30th September, 1907, represented: Capital paid up \$150,000, mortgage on property \$10,500 (six per cent. off), property reserve account \$3,800, and sundry creditors \$33,697.36. On the other side we find, property, valued at \$3,300, furniture \$9,914.41, sundry debtors \$67,101.3, stock on hand \$123,780.54, cash at hand \$7,645.96, Tientsin current account \$18,803.25, Bangkok current account \$4,681, suspense account \$5,069.31 and exchange adjustment account, adjusting Singapore and Peking surplus of assets to a uniform dollar rate of 7s = \$7,744.23. In an accompanying circular, the general manager points out that the Company has been paying steadily 12 per cent. per annum since its formation.—*British Georgia Co.'s share circular.*

SOME time during Thursday night or early yesterday morning a thief gained admittance to 6, Pedder Hill—a house occupied by Mr. J. H. Pidgeon—and was successful in forcing open a drawer, from which he removed about \$25 in cash. The matter has been reported to the police.

LOTS of land in the New Territories sold by the Public Works Department during 1907 realised a sum of \$28,475. This includes a sum of \$500 for buildings which were sold within the Island of Fu Tai Chau. In addition to this the Assistant Land Officer at Taiipo sold 103 small lots which realised \$1,066, and the Assistant Land Officer at Hongkong 31 small lots which realised \$1,800.

HONGKONG COTTON SPINNING,
WEAVING AND DYING
CO., LTD.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The ordinary annual meeting of shareholders of the Hongkong Cotton Spinning, Weaving and Dyeing Co., Ltd., was held at the office of the General Managers at noon, to-day, for the purpose of receiving the report of the consulting committee and statement of accounts to 31st July, 1908. The Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson was in the chair. There were also present:—Sir C. P. Chater, Mr. J. W. C. Bonnar (consulting committee), Messrs. A. Denison, Lo Cheung Shiu, Ho Yu-shang, W. E. Clarke, A. D. Couland, R. S. Piercy, A. Shaw, E. Pelley, Ormiston, and W. A. Fleming (secretary).

The secretary read the notice convening the meeting.

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen,—The report and accounts having been in your hands for some days I propose with your approval, to take them as read. The depression in the yarn trade referred to at our last annual meeting continued during the first half of the period covered by the accounts now under review, and for some months the mill was working at a loss. In the spring of this year, however, a considerable improvement in demand took place, but it is unfortunate that we have been unable to take full advantage of this improvement, owing to the difficulty of obtaining adequate labour. It will be remembered that at the end of April, 1907, it was found necessary, owing to lack of demand, to curtail our production, which was done by reducing the number of spindles running and dispensing with the services of about half our workpeople. So soon as the improvement in the yarn trade commenced, we at once endeavoured to increase the number of spindles at work, but this year we have experienced greater difficulty than on any previous occasion in bringing the Mill into full working. This is, doubtless, due to the existence of remunerative work on the mainland on railway enterprises, which have recently come into being, but the result is that we have had to be contented with unskilled labour, which takes time to train and a consequent decrease in output for the time being. Our workers are, however, gradually improving and we have now about 45,000 spindles running out of a total of 55,000. Taking into consideration the difficulties with which we have had to contend, I trust that you will consider the gain on working, viz., \$3,356.30 as not unsatisfactory. The general position, moreover, shows a considerable improvement on that of last year, as may be illustrated by a comparison of the stock of yarn at the respective dates. On 31st July, 1907, there was undelivered stock at the Mill of 6,656 bales of which 5,913 bales were unsold; on 31st July this year the undelivered stock was 1,181 bales all sold, and this quantity has since been reduced to 144 bales on the 19th instant. The stock of cotton has been taken over at a safe price and the production of the Mill is sold up to mid-December at a small profit. I may mention further that we have succeeded in establishing a regular demand for our yarn in the Northern Ports of Shanghai and Tientsin. Under these circumstances your consulting committee has felt justified in proposing to you that \$40,000 be taken from the equalization of dividend fund for the purpose of paying a similar dividend to that of last year, and I trust that this course of action will have your approval. The property is all in first class condition. Before asking you to pass the report and accounts, I shall be pleased to answer any questions concerning them.

There were no questions.

The Chairman proposed, and Mr. Denison seconded, that the report and accounts be passed.

Carried unanimously.

Sir Carr Chater and Mr. Bonnar were re-elected to the consulting committee on the motion of Mr. Ormiston seconded by Mr. Lo Cheung Shiu.

Mr. Couland proposed the re-election of Mr. W. Hutton Potts as auditor.

Mr. Shaw seconded.

Carried unanimously.

The Chairman:—Dividend warrants will be posted on Monday; gentlemen, I thank you for your attendance.

That was all the business.

SUN YAT-SEN'S CASE.

EXTRADITION REFUSED.

A Peking dispatch states that Their Excellencies the Grand Councilors Na Tung and Yuan Shih-kai in obedience to the Imperial commands to approach the British Government on the subject of the sojourn of Sun Yat-sen, alias Sun Wen, the anti-monarchist leader, in British territory, called upon Sir John Jordan, the British Minister in Peking, on the same day of receiving Her Majesty's command. The reply their Excellencies received from the British Minister when asked to refuse harbourage to the revolutionist leader, it is reported, was that so long as a political refugee did not violate the laws of the land in which he was residing it was against the principles of the British Constitution to refuse such person permission to reside in British territory.—*M. C. D. News.*

The newly-appointed Taotai for the Development of Native Industries at Canton, Chan Mong Tsang, will take up the duties of his new office on the 11th day of the next moon, the 5th proximo.

A DISPATCH from Hangchow, capital of Chekiang, reports that a great part of the prefectures of Chichou and Yen-chou in that province, is now inundated by the unprecedented freshets this year. An Imperial Rescript has been issued authorizing H.E. T'eng Yuen, the Governor of Chekiang, to draw from the provincial treasury for funds to relieve the distress in the flooded districts.

DRUGGED AND ROBBED.

WEALTHY HONGKONG LANDOWNER
VICTIMIZED.

A somewhat remarkable story of how a well-known Hongkong landowner was drugged and afterwards robbed is now occupying the attention of the police.

The details are somewhat meagre, but the main facts appear to be these. Some time yesterday a certain Chinaman, who shall be nameless at this stage, was invited by two men to a certain house in Staunton Street to discuss a certain business proposition. It was stated that the landowner was invited to this house to talk over the price of a house which he wanted to buy. While seated round the table discussing the matter, refreshments were produced, which were offered to the visitor. The rest was a blank. That the landowner lost consciousness after drinking a cup of tea is what he alleges. When he recovered an hour or so later he discovered that he was alone and something like \$4,000 which he had in his pocket missing. It is also believed that he was made to sign certain documents, but of this we are not sure.

The matter was reported to the police at headquarters and they are inquiring into the matter.

A DANGEROUS COXSWIN.

RECENT HARBOUR COLLISION DUE TO
GROSS STUPIDITY.

A collision which took place in the harbour on the 24th instant, between the steam launches *Lee Hing* and the *Daisy*, belonging to the Harbour Department, was the subject of an inquiry which was held in the Marine Court, this morning. The coxswain of the *Lee Hing* was accused and found guilty of failing to observe the rules of the road.

It was stated by Mr. McIver, the harbour officer, that at the time of the collision he was returning from the steamer *Japan*, on board the *Daisy*, after passing a number of emigrants. At about 1.30 p.m. the launch had in a boat about 20 rejected emigrants, women and children, who were being brought ashore. When in the southern fairway he saw the *Lee Hing* going to the eastward—about 200 yards off. The coxswain of the *Daisy* altered his course to port and blew a short blast on his whistle. Half a minute later the *Lee Hing* blew two short blasts and starboarded, coming straight for the *Daisy*. As both launches were going full speed it was impossible to avert a collision, notwithstanding the fact that the *Daisy* was put full speed astern when the *Lee Hing* altered her course. In the collision that followed the *Daisy* received considerable damage, and Mr. McIver remarked that a serious accident might have occurred had not the *Daisy* gone astern when she did.

The coxswain of the *Daisy* gave corroborative evidence.

Chan Kwai, second coxswain of the *Lee Hing*, said that he was in charge of the launch and was at the wheel on the day in question. The *Lee Hing* was returning from West Point. He saw the *Daisy* coming from the Central Fairway, making for the Harbour Office pier. She blew one short blast and altered her course to starboard. "As I saw some European officers on board the *Daisy*," continued the coxswain, "I altered my course to port, blowing two blasts, which resulted in the collision, my launch striking the *Daisy* astern."

Asked if he stood by the *Daisy* witness replied in the negative, adding that the *Daisy* proceeded to her wharf.

The Assistant Harbour Master—Did you know when you altered your course wrong? The coxswain—Yes. But I wished to show my respect to the Harbour officials.

In giving his decision, his Worship said:—I find that the collision was caused by the gross stupidity of the coxswain of the *Lee Hing* altering his course to port when the *Daisy* was porting to clear his launch. I fail to understand his defence that although he knew he ought to keep his course he was showing his respect to the European officers and the *Daisy* by starboarding his helm.

I consider him to be dangerous to be in charge of a launch so I suspend his certificate for four months, at the end of which time he must pass a further examination before getting a certificate.

THE German mail of the 26th August was delivered in London on the 25th inst.

It is reported from the North that the German Minister and the special envoy of the King of Nepal to the Emperor intend to go to Shanghai on a visit to the Buddhist Pontiff. The Nepalese (called Ghurka—Koo Erkeeb—by the Chinese) after calling on the Dalai Lama will return south on his journey home.

OUR Canton correspondent writes under date 24th inst.—A telegram has been received from Shanghai stating that Taotai Im Ku, who has been nominated successor to Taotai Wen Tsung Yao as director of the bureau of Foreign Affairs in Canton, is expected to arrive at Canton in about a week's time.

A MANCHU ex-official called Jui Lu, who was cashiered recently on the charge of traitorously selling abrid military secrets, connected with the Manchurian Army Organisation, has upon the recommendation of H. E. Viceroy Hui Shih-chang been further punished by a sentence of perpetual banishment to Chinese Turkistan.

WHILE walking along Hollywood Road yesterday afternoon, a Chinese woman was struck on the head by a brick hurled by a coolie. It appeared that the coolie insulted the woman, who spoke back, and getting annoyed, he picked up the brick and struck her. He was arrested, and was charged in the Police Court to-day, and remained.

V. R. C. ANNUAL AQUATIC SPORTS.

SECOND DAY.

The second day's programme in the above Aquatic Sports was witnessed by as big a gathering as there was on the first day and the finishes in the swimming events were very close.

The results were as follows:—

1.—HURDLE RACE—TWO LENGTHS—(Handicap) 4 Hurdles. 1st and 2nd in each heat to swim in the final. Two prizes.

The first heat saw six starters, and A. V. Barros (owes 9) swam well and finished a good first with R. Galluzzi ("go") second.

In the second heat the same number of men took the water and Ribeiro (owes 8) won this heat by about a yard from R. C. Witchell (owes 14) the second man.

2.—BOYS' RACE—(12 to 15 years of age). Two lengths Handicap.—(Post entries) Sons or brothers of members only admitted. Two prizes.

This event was won easily by Master Carlos Lopes (owes 7) who swam well throughout, overtaking all the other boys in the first length, and getting home with about six or seven yards to spare before him and the second boy, Master G. Jorge (owes 3).

3.—CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE COLONY, 200 Yards (Open). (Six Lengths). Two prizes.

Only three competed for this, viz. Messrs. C. J. Cooke, C. Humphreys and P. M. Remedios. From the start, Remedios forced the pace and kept up a lead of a few yards from the other two men, but in the fifth length, he began to slacken down and allowed Humphreys and Cooke to catch him up, the former through good swimming won by about a couple of yards from Cooke. Remedios did not finish. Time 2 minutes 41.45 seconds.

4.—PLUNGING. Two prizes.

The tie between R. C. Witchell and Carl Bunji was quickly decided yesterday, the latter not diving as well as he did on the previous day, whilst Witchell seemed to be in just as good form as he was on the first day and won easily, covering 57 feet with his plunge.

5.—RUNNING HEADER FROM SPRINGBOARD. Two prizes.

Unfortunately only three entered for this event, viz.—Messrs. J. M. Lopes, M. A. R. Souza and A. R. Ellis.

Lopes seemed a bit nervous in this event and did not dive as well as he has been seen to do, as also did Souza. Ellis surprised everybody by his excellent diving, his recovery being exceptionally good. Souza was second.

6.—FOUR LENGTHS HANDICAP. First and second in each heat to swim in the final. Two prizes.

1st heat.—There were six starters in this heat. The "go" man, H. J. White, was soon overtaken by the others and after the second length had been traversed, Pereira and Roxa were leading with Carroll, Alves and Witchell a little way behind on the swim home in the fourth length, matters were altered, when Carroll now forged ahead, overtaking the two leaders and won, with Roxa second.

2nd heat.—Six men also took the water in this heat, which was easily won by Barros, Remedios being second.

At the conclusion of the above programme, a very interesting water polo match was played between two V. R. C. teams. The first half of the game was very fast and void of any fouls, neither side scoring in their many attempts, but in the second spell, the Whites proved their superiority in staying power and netted three goals to their opponents' nil. The goals being scored by Messrs. E. Humphreys, A. S. Ellis and A. H. Carroll.

The teams comprised:—(Whites):—A. H. Carroll, E. Humphreys, A. S. Ellis, J. Forbes, J. Carter, L. E. Lammet and P. M. Remedios. (Blues):—R. C. Witchell, A. R. Ellis, J. M. Lopes, O. R. Chunnell, P. C. Sayer, A. A. Claxton and J. M. Roxa Pereira.

ONE Chinese case of plague was reported as having occurred to-day at 1, Austin Road, Tsim Sha Teui. The patient died.

A HAWKER, who, the police say, was selling "food for man"—to wit, worms—without a licence, was ordered to pay a fine of \$4 in the Police Court, to-day.

AT St. Andrew's Church, Kowloon, to-morrow the Holy Communion will be administered at 8 a.m. Morning Prayer and Sermon at 11 a.m., attended (weather permitting) by the Church parade party of "H. F." Company, Middlesex Regiment. Evening Prayer and Sermon at 6 p.m. The efforts will be in aid of the Church Maintenance Fund, which is at present in debt to the Treasurer and has some heavy claims to meet in the near future.

A HUNGARY plate layer who was charged with stealing a jam tart from the mess-room of H.M. torpedo-boat *Whiting*, yesterday, was, in the Police Court, to-day, bound over in one surety of \$15 to come up for judgment when called upon. At the time a number of coolies were employed on board the destroyer, then lying in the Kowloon docks. Ho Hing, a plate layer, who no doubt had his eyes on the mess-room, proceeded to help himself to some of the sweet stuff. Petty Officer Vincent caught him in the act.

A DISTURBANCE was created in the Central Market yesterday. A lad, the story goes, went to a certain stall to make a purchase. As he was leaving the stall holder, accused him of stealing four turnips, and caught hold of the lad. Turning round sharply on his heel the lad drew out a cargo hook from his belt, and struck his alleged assailant, on the face, causing a serious gash. A policeman was called, and the lad, Wong Ping, aged fifteen, was handed over. In the Police Court, this morning, he was found not guilty of the charge of theft, but was fined \$20 for the assault.

Telegrams.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH"
SERVICE.
JAPANESE TRAVELLERS IN
CHINA.COMPLIANCE WITH PASSPORT
RESTRICTIONS.

[By courtesy of the "Shung Po"]

Peking, 25th September.

The Waiyupu has requested the Japanese Charge d'Affaires in Peking to notify his nationals that, while travelling in China, they must conform with Treaty provisions; must not exceed the period of their stay; must not go beyond the boundaries specified in their respective passports; and must not make sketches wherever they go.

TANG SHAO-YI'S MISSION.

VISITING SHANGHAI AND JAPAN
EN ROUTE.

[By courtesy of the "Shung Po"]

Peking, 25th September.

H. E. Tang Shao-yi, Special Commissioner to Washington, will call at Shanghai en route.

From Shanghai His Excellency proceeds to Japan where he will inquire into the financial system obtaining in that country [in obedience to instructions from the President of the Board of Revenue], before resuming his journey to the United States.

CHINESE MINISTER TO
GERMANY.

YUM CHEUNG'S RE-APPOINTMENT.

[By courtesy of the "Shung Po"]

Peking, 25th September.

Yum Cheung, ex-Chinese Minister to Germany, has been re-appointed Chinese representative at the German Court.

LAW SUITS.

FOREIGN INTERFERENCE NOT
TOLERATED.

[By courtesy of the "Shung Po"]

Peking, 25th September.

The Waiyupu has requested all Foreign Ministers to prohibit their respective nationals from interfering in law suits where the parties concerned are Chinese subjects only.

DALAI LLAMA.

NON-ARRIVAL AT PEKING.

[By courtesy of the "Shung Po"]

Peking, 25th September.

The Dalai Lama has not yet arrived at Peking.

Pok Tik Sou has been despatched to Pooting to welcome the Buddhist Pontiff.

THE BOYCOTT BOYCOTT.

Recent letters from the South of China, it may be remembered, gave accounts of a serious deadlock which had arisen between Mr. Kleins, Commissioner of Customs at Hoihow, and the Chinese merchants of that port. The exact nature of the complaint did not come to light, but apparently the merchant resented certain modifications which Mr. Kleins had introduced in the tariff and they declared a boycott during which, for a whole week, no ship could do any business at Hoihow. It was generally imagined that Mr. Kleins would have to be removed, but according to a letter from our (N. C. D. News) Peking correspondent, dated September 5, he has succeeded in maintaining his position while the boycott appears to have broken down, owing, it is said, to the boycotters' fear of bringing any specific charges against the Commissioner. Outside questions of official monetary loss, the worst sufferers are the local Chinese officials who went out of their way to give a gratuitous pledge that Mr. Kleins should be removed before August 10. The non-fulfilment of this pledge entails on the officials a severe loss of face.

Our correspondent adds that a few days prior to the date of writing, a quarrel broke out between the Government soldiers and the police in Hoihow, in which four of the latter were killed.

Telegrams.

[Reuters.]

MOROCCO.

London, 24th September.
The German reply to the Franco-Spanish Note is most moderate in tone, and generally accepts the proposals put forward.
Confidence is now expressed in Paris that an international understanding will be reached.

In reference to the repayment of Franco-Spanish military expenses and compensation from under, Germany trusts that France and Spain will consider the financial position of Morocco wherein all Powers are interested.

Later.
The French press recognise the conciliatory tone of the German Note which gives reason to hope that an agreement in points of detail is now possible.

Austria and Bulgaria.

Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria and his consort have arrived at Budapest where they were warmly welcomed by Emperor Franz Joseph of Austria.

At a banquet the Emperor, in toasting Prince Ferdinand, dwelt on the excellent relations existing between Austria and Bulgaria, and wished prosperity to the young country whose progress he described as one of the most remarkable qualities of her people.

England and Japan.

Councillor Yamazaki, the new Japanese Charge d'Affaires in London, interviewed by Reuters, said that the Anglo-Japanese Alliance was a very real and powerful factor in Japanese life and thought. He felt quite right in saying that the question of British trade marks in Japan was practically settled; and knew no point on which Japan had departed from the policy of the open door in Manchuria. He re-affirmed the intention of Japan to maintain an equal opportunity for all in the ports of China.

TIGER SHOOTING IN CHINA.

One of the most exciting moments I have had in hunting occurred while tiger shooting in caves in Amoy, China. A friend and myself had decided to try our luck with "stripes" in the Amoy Hills. We had out searching for game several Chinese hunters who promised to let us know as soon as they had found out a place frequented by tigers.

One day in March two of them called and said they knew a place where we were sure to get a shot at a tiger. We asked the hunters where we should spend the night. They said they had made arrangements with a priest for us to stay at a temple. After a ride of about three hours we arrived at the foot of a range of hills, and a good way up saw the small temple where we were to stay that night. Our beds were soon made and arrangements made for dinner. The Chinese seem to have no scruples at all, as we slept close alongside the altar. This did not prevent the villagers from coming in the early morning and burning their joss sticks to Buddha quite unconcerned at our presence.

At the first sign of dawn, with our field glasses and rifles, we descended to the valley. As soon as it was possible to see we eagerly scanned the tops of the hills for a sign of the tigers. In this part of the country it is customary for them to return to their lairs at break of dawn with their prey. As soon as a tiger was sighted he was carefully watched to see what cave he entered. As soon as the tiger was located the Chinese hunters were sent off to see if there was any opening to the cave other than the one he had entered. After a few anxious moments the hunters returned and said there was no other entrance. We then tossed up for first shot because, as a rule, in these caves one man only gets a shot. We proceeded to the place where the tiger had entered the cave, the Chinese hunters lighting their torches and proceeded to search for the tigers.

We had to wait at the entrance of the cave, as it was not desirable that all of us should enter it at once; it would make too much noise. After a little time the man returned and said the tiger had been located, and that it was a tigress with two cubs. His made it much more interesting, as the tigress was sure to show fight on account of her cubs.

We proceeded silently and in a single file to enter the cave. Some parts of it were so low that we had to put our rifle through first and crawl on our hands and knees. In other parts it opened our fairly wide. In the sand at our feet we could see the footprints of the tigress and her cubs. After about ten minutes travelling in this manner, with the torchman ahead, he pointed and nodded to show where the tigress was. At this time we were in a chamber about ten feet square, just room for the four of us, two Chinese hunters with their torches and spears, my friend and myself. My friend, as he had first shot was just in front of me with one Chinese hunter on each side of him. He leaned forward to look down the cave toward the tigress, when she suddenly made one dash, put out the two torches and sprang at my friend.

The moment the tigress did so my friend slipped and dropped his rifle so he could not fire. I took a rapid shot as the tigress sprang and luckily brought her down. The situation was exciting, to say the least. I could not tell if I had killed the animal. Part of the body was actually across my feet. It was almost dark, the torches were just smouldering, and there were four of us in the small chamber with the creature lying in our midst. The Chinese hunters gradually got their torches alight again, and I was able to take stock of the situation. My friend had been terribly mauled about the chest and was bleeding badly, but the tigress was stone dead.

After a while I got my friend out and then the tigress. From the time the tigress made her spring till the torches were alight again was only a few seconds, but it seemed ages.

—EDWIN PINCHES, in *The Atlas*.

TYTAM WATERWORKS.

SLOW PROGRESS.

According to the Director of Public Works, the progress on this work last year was very slow, especially during the summer months when sickness was prevalent.

DAM.

The dam was completed with the exception of the valve house and gateway across the overflow.

The following are the quantities used in its construction during the year:—
Cement concrete..... 974 cubic yards.
Rubble masonry facework 1024 " "
Ashlar, " 10257 " "
At the close of the year water was impounded in the reservoir up to the level of the overflow.

PUMPING STATION.

The buildings were completed and the erection of the No. 1 engine was sufficiently advanced by April to enable it to be used to charge the main for testing purposes. On the occasion of the second test an 18" sluice valve outside the station burst. The valve formed one of a pair and, as its failure revealed the fact that the metal of which it was composed was of insufficient thickness, steps were taken to replace both valves. The erection of the No. 2 engine was completed in May. As mentioned elsewhere, owing to the copious rainfall in September and October, the necessity for resorting to pumping water did not arise and the running of the engines was confined to trials with a view to getting them into thorough working order.

A contract was let to Messrs. Wilks & Jack in December for the installation of the necessary plant and fittings for lighting the station buildings with electric light.

NEW ROAD.

The new road was completed, with the exception of a short length which connects the old and new roads below the Byewash Reservoir, and the setting of the coping stones to the parapet walls of some of the bridges.

ACCESS ROADS.

The access road to the pumping station was completed, and that to the gauge basin at the entrance to Tytiam tunnel practically so, only a portion of the surfacing remaining to be done.

RISING MAIN.

The rising main was completed, 2,236 feet being laid during the year. Only one burst occurred during the testing of it and this involved the removal of one pipe and the substitution of a new one for it.

SUCTION MAIN.

As mentioned in last year's report, the laying of this main was completed in 1906. This also was tested, two bursts occurring and several blown joints. All of these were made good.

SECOND SECTION.

The necessary plans and particulars were prepared with a view to calling for tenders for this work, but the Government decided that it was inexpedient, for financial reasons, to proceed further with it and accordingly no further steps in the matter were taken.

MALWA OPIUM.

EXPORT FROM BOMBAY PROHIBITED.

Simla, September 2.

The following *Gazette of India Extraordinary* is published here over the signature of the Secretary to the Government of India, Commerce and Industry Department:—

"In exercise of powers conferred by section 17 of Sea Customs Act 8 of 1878, the Governor-General in Council is pleased to prohibit export by sea of Malwa opium from the port of Bombay until the 1st January, 1909."

Later.

The prohibition announced to-day of further exports of Malwa opium from Bombay this year, is in fulfilment of the conditions of Great Britain's agreement with China which restricts the annual opium exports from India to China to a certain fixed number of chests annually. This number is divided pro rata between Bengal opium and Malwa opium, and the exports of the latter last week reached the maximum allowed for the year.—*Advocate of India*.

SANITARY BOARD.

QUESTIONS BY MR. SHELTON HOOPER.

At the ordinary fortnightly meeting of the Sanitary Board on the 25th inst., Mr. A. Shelton Hooper, pursuant to notice, will ask:—

Whether any arrangement has been made whereby any officers of the Sanitary Department are required to ascertain and report on nuisances under Part III of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance 1903-1908 for the information of the Building Authority?

If so, has such arrangement received the sanction of His Excellency the Governor, and will the particulars of such arrangement be laid before the Board for their information?

The following business will also be transacted at the meeting:—

Letter from Government relative to the purchase of steam lighters for the disposal of the City refuse. Report of committee appointed to report on the bye-laws for disinfection of infected premises, etc. Report of committee appointed to consider the Cemetery Bye-laws. Correspondence relative to water tanks in back-yards. Application for a modification of the requirements of Clause 11 of Schedule G of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, 1903-1908, in respect of the two houses on Marine Lot 29. Application for permission to re-occupy the houses in Hok On which were closed by order of the Board during the plague season. Mortality statistics for the weeks ending September 12th and 19th, 1908. Rat return for the weeks ending September 19th and 26th, 1908.

THREE lightermen were sentenced to three months' hard labour each in the Police Court, this morning, for stealing a quantity of maiting, valued at \$7, from the Kowloon Godown, yesterday.

THE JULY TYPHOON.

GOVERNOR'S REPORT.

Following are extracts from the Governor's report to Lord Elgin on the typhoon of 17th July last:—

From these [departmental] reports, Your Lordship will observe that 26 privately owned buildings collapsed with a loss of 59 lives, while the total number of buildings seriously damaged was 67. Three minor Government buildings collapsed, and damage was done to 77 Government buildings with a loss of one life. The cost of the necessary repairs to Government buildings, roads, etc., is estimated by Mr. Chalmers at 78,432.

The casualties to native craft of all descriptions during the typhoon were as follows:—

	Inside harbour limits.	Outside harbour limits.	Total.
Trading ships	17	7	24
Fishing and other boats	66	25	91
Unlicensed junk	83	32	115
Cargo and other boats	36	5	41
Small sampans	6	6	12
Total native craft of all descriptions	198	75	273
European officers	3	3	6
European passengers	3	3	6
Chinese passengers	427	427	854
Chinese crew (including compradore's staff)	33	33	66
Total	466	466	932

Of these only 42 are reported as being saved, so that it would seem that 424 persons were lost, including the master and the 3 European passengers.

The loss of life among the Chinese—more especially at sea—cannot be stated with accuracy, and it is probably far heavier than I have stated it to be in the foregoing paragraphs, which are based on the police reports received.

The damage done to the railway was fortunately slight, the most serious items being the unroofing of the cattle quarters and the power house at the North Face of the tunnel.

The New Territories suffered only slight damage from the typhoon, as the crops had to a great extent been already harvested. The District Officer at Tai Po reports that no appeals for special help have been made, that there were no serious collapses, and that the only loss of life occurred owing to the wreck of a trading junk on the east coast.

The damage done to trees, shrubs and plants all over the Colony was very considerable, and is much greater than that caused by the typhoon of September, 1906. Indeed, it would seem that the force and violence of the wind in this last typhoon was considerably greater than in the disastrous storm of two years ago; but, as the anemometer on the Island was completely wrecked, and that at the Observatory much damaged, any precise comparison is impossible. The results in the harbour were not so terrible as on the former occasion, owing in the first place to the fact that it was possible for the Observatory to give much more adequate warning, and in the second place to the fact that the typhoon came from the N.E. and not from the N.W. as in 1906.

The devastation caused on land is, however, much more marked than in the former catastrophe, and many years must elapse before the traces of this visitation in the form of broken and disfigured trees disappear. The storm swept on to Canton—an unusual occurrence where great destruction of river craft and much loss of life is reported to have occurred.

There being a considerable surplus of subscriptions and donations in hand from the funds raised in relief of losses and distress caused by the typhoon of 18th September, 1906, it has not been necessary to raise any special subscriptions in aid of the relief of sufferers by the typhoon which forms the subject of this report.

Investigations have been made into cases requiring relief by the committee of the Tung Wa Hospital and the Registrar General, whose report dated the 31st August, I have the honour to enclose.

I am glad to be able to inform Your Lordship that the disaster gave occasion for many exhibitions of gallantry in saving life, and that the police of the Colony sustained their reputation for courage and devotion to duty. I would specially invite Your Lordship's attention to the letter of the 17th ultimo from the Tung Wa Hospital enclosed in Mr. Irving's report.

I have already conveyed to the officers and sailors concerned my appreciation of their courageous act.

[Enclosure.]

The report of the Registrar General referred to in the foregoing despatch reads:—

Registrar General's Office,
Hongkong, 31st August, 1908.

Sir,—As directed, I have the honour to report on the relief which it is desirable to extend to the victims of the recent typhoon.

Following the procedure adopted in 1906, I called a meeting of the Tung Wa Hospital committee on 8th instant, and a Typhoon Relief Committee was formed, consisting of the present directors of the Tung Wa, together with a few gentlemen outside that body, whose assistance it was considered desirable to secure. I give in enclosure A the names of the committee. At the first meeting it was arranged that only such cases should be forwarded by myself or through me by the Police and Harbour Departments. The object of this precaution was to check the rush, which was sure to be made, and was indeed made, to secure compensation by people who neglected to report their losses at once. Such late reports need very careful scrutiny; and it is fair and convenient that they should be dealt with last.

2. At a second meeting of the committee, on the next day, the following further general principles were agreed to:—
(i.) Big junks and fishing junks, which are financed on methods approximating to an insurance, and which contemplate loss by storm as a risk of the trade, should receive no compensation. This was the course followed after the typhoon of 1906. Charity should, however, be extended to necessitous survivors of such wrecks, especially to widows and orphan children.

(ii.) A sub-committee was appointed to inquire into cases referred to them by the Registrar General, and to report to the General Committee.

(iii.) The Committee further recommended that a letter should be addressed to the Government to be forwarded to the proper quarter, expressing the thanks of the community for the action of the crew of H.M.S. *Astron* in rescuing certain Chinese. A translation of this letter is attached, Enclosure B.

3. The sub-committee sat regularly, and made an interim report to the General Committee at a third meeting held on 18th instant, and a final report on 20th instant.

The recommendations of the sub-committee which were adopted, are as follows:—

(a) \$6,645 to be paid to the owners or crew of 75 craft.

(b) \$500 to be paid to the victims of the collapse of houses.

(c) \$1,000 to be subscribed to the Blindenheim, Kowloon.

4. Claims raised in connection with 44 craft were disallowed. Besides these, 116 cases of loss or damage were reported; but the sufferers in these cases have failed to appear, although notices have been posted up five times calling on them to do so, and other steps taken to find them. The great majority of these cases are either bogus, or cases where the injury inflicted is trifling, or where in no case could compensation be awarded. The committee now recommend that the inquiry be considered to be closed.

5. As regards the third recommendation, on which the committee laid great stress, you are in a better position than the committee or I to judge of the necessities of the case. But so far as our information goes, this institution, which does good work as is well known, suffered considerable loss in the typhoon. The roof was blown off, and temporary quarters have had to be engaged.

6. The sums detailed in enclosures C and D of the committee's report should be paid at once. They can in part be met by the interest on the 30,000 loans now with the Tung Wa, and the balance can be provided from the 1906 typhoon fund now with the Government together with the interest which has been accrued thereon.—I have, &c.,

EDWARD A. IRVING,

Registrar-General.

The Honorable

Mr. F. H. MAY, C.M.G.,

Colonial Secretary.

TYPHOON RELIEF COMMITTEE.

The present directors of the Tung Wa Hospital to whom are added:—Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, C.M.G., Hon. Mr. Wei Yuk, C.M.G., Messrs. Fung Wa-chun, Lau Chu-pik, Ho Kom-tong, Ng Hon-chi, Li Yau-tsun, Li Fung-shao, Mak Fuk, Tam Hek-pok, Chan Lok-chun, Chan Tien-shan, Li Yau-long, Wong Shiu-tung, Tsui Chung-yik, Chan Cheuk-hing, Ng Shau-shang, Cheung Tsung-chi, She Tai-soi, Tse Sz-ping, Tse Shui-cho, Hung Chi-leung, Cheung Sz-kun, and Li Mau-chi.

[Translation.]

Po Leung Kuk,
Hongkong, 11th August, 1908.

Sir,—During the typhoon of the 27th ult. the cutter lowered by H.M.S. *Astron* was the cause of saving the lives of many persons from those junks which were late in making for shelter. We understand that an Officer and 11 sailors showed the greatest bravery in risking their own lives at a time when the sea was high in order to save the lives of others. This deed of heroism is greatly admired by all sections of the Community of the Colony. In our letter No. 115 we stated a desire to make a small presentation to them as a token of our appreciation. We regret to learn from your letter No. 194 that the cruiser has already returned home thus preventing us giving effect to our desire.

The Officers and crew of H.M.S. *Astron* have gained a wide reputation for their disinterested bravery. Being endowed with love for their fellowmen, they used their energy to save the lives of others, and in picking up the drowning, gained honour for themselves. Although we cannot requite them with a presentation, this act of humanity will for ever exist in our memory. We shall consider it a great favour if you will be so kind as to convey for us our sense of gratitude.—We have, &c.,

Tung Wa Hospital Committee,
and Representatives of the Community.

Hon. Mr. E. A. IRVING.

S. S. "PATROL" ACCIDENT.

FINDING OF THE COURT OF INQUIRY.

The marine court, which sat at Singapore to inquire into the stranding of the cable steamer *Patrol*, delivered their finding on 16th inst. They held that the accident was caused by the gross negligence of the third mate, Mr. Horatio Gulston, and ordered him to pay the costs of the inquiry, \$4. While adding that the master might have remained on the bridge, the Court desired to exonerate Captain Simmonds from all blame in the matter, and expressed their appreciation of his conduct throughout, both during and after the stranding.

To-day's Advertisement.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by PUBLIC AUCTION, FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED, on WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY, the 30th September and 1st October, 1908, at 2.30 P.M., at No. 17A, Queen's Road Central,

SUNDRY HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, comprising:—
TEAKWOOD SIDEBOARDS with BEVELLED GLASS, IRON BEDSTEADS, GLASS CROCKERY and E.P. WARE, OVERMANTELS, a quantity of BRASS WARE, PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, &c., &c.

Catalogue will be issued. TERMS—As usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers,
Hongkong, 26th September, 1908. [874]

NEW TERRITORIES.

EXTENSION OF ROADS.

In his report for last year, the Director of Public Works writes:—The extension of the Kowloon City Road to its point of intersection with roads made by the Military Authorities to Tai's Cairn and Chin Lau Chu Hill, which was mentioned in last year's report, was completed in March. It has a length of 7,840 feet (1.48 miles), a width of 12 feet, and includes six new bridges, varying from 10 to 30 feet span, and one old Chinese bridge which was partially reconstructed. All the bridges are constructed of cement concrete supported on rolled joists resting on masonry abutments. For a distance of one mile the road is level and it then rises in the direction of Customs Pass with gradients varying from 1 in 39 to 1 in 6.75, one short length being however "as steep as 1 in 4.89. It is surfaced with decomposed granite throughout and is provided with concrete side channels where necessary. The total cost of the work was \$37,174.87, towards which the Military Authorities contributed a sum of \$5,200. The cost includes a sum of \$295.34 for resumption of land required for the construction of the road.

A contract for a further extension of this road from the termination of the section just described to its point of bifurcation to Customs Pass and Chin Lau Chu Village, a distance of 2,534 feet (0.54 mile), was let just before the close of the year, the Military Authorities having agreed to contribute half the cost.

The only other work executed under this heading was the surfacing of the path from Kowloon City to Kowloon Pass, diverted in order to be clear of the danger zone of the new Rifle Ranges when these were constructed in 1902. It consists of lime and cement concrete, 4 inches thick, sundry improvements in the provision for carrying off stormwater being effected in conjunction with the surfacing work. The work was completed at a cost of \$6,525.45, towards which the Military Authorities contributed the sum of \$2,400.

COMMERCIAL.

WEEKLY SHARE REPORT.

Reviewing the share business for the week Messrs. E. S. Kadoorie & Co. write on 25th inst.:—

A fair general business has been transacted in our market during the week under review, and rates in most cases have ruled fairly steady. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks have improved to \$770, and which rate sales have been effected. The London rate is 4.83.

Marine insurances.—Small sales of Cantonese have been effected at \$110. North-Chinas continue in further demand at Tls. 80 in the North. A further improvement in Unions has taken place and there are buyers at \$78 after sales at \$70. Yungtze's can be had at Tls. 167.

Fire insurances.—There are buyers of China Fires at \$94. Hongkong Fires can be placed at \$310.

Shipping.—Douglases are quiet at \$344 ex the dividend of \$21 per share, paid on the 21st inst. Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboats have strengthened to \$181, closing with buyers at the rate. Shell Transports are slightly easier at 47.

Refineries.—China Sugars are unchanged and without business to report. Perak Sugars can be sold at Tls. 90, in the North.

Mining.—Chinese Engineers continue quiet at Tls. 16. Rauba's are a shade weaker at \$73.

Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Kowloon Wharves continue to rule steady at \$50. Whampoa Docks are neglected at \$95. Sales of Shanghai Docks have taken place at the improved rate of Tls. 86. Hongkong Wharves are offering in the North at Tls. 164.

Land, Hotels and Buildings.—Hongkong Hotels and Hongkong Land are unchanged and without business to report. Humphrey's Estates are wanted at \$9. It is notified that an extraordinary general meeting of shareholders in this Company will be held on Thursday, the 1st October, for the purpose of passing the following resolution:—That the sum of \$50,000 now standing at the credit of equalization of dividend 5/6, be transferred to the credit of typhoon and floods insurance fund. Shanghai Lands have declined to Tls. 113, but there are buyers at the rate.

Cotton Mills.—Ewos can be sold in the North at Tls. 63. Hongkong Cottons remain quiet at \$11. Internationals have changed hands at Tls. 60.

Miscellaneous.—China Providents have found buyers at \$91, and Dairy Farms at \$20. Green Island Cements have again been dealt in at \$10. Sales of Hongkong Electric have been effected at \$10. Langkats have buyers at the improved rate of Tls. 63.

Exchange.—The Bank selling rate on London is 1/4 on demand. The T/F rate on Shanghai is 75.

Dividends Payable.—Hongkong Cottons—Dividend of 50 cents per share for period from 1st August, 1907, to 31st July, 1908, payable to-morrow.

Intimations.

YOU MAY BUY FROM US A

VICTOR



AT \$2 per week.

CALL AND HEAR OUR

LATEST

RECORDS,

IMPROVED

MACHINES

AND THE

MARVELLOUS

AUXETOPHONE

THE

ROBINSON

PIANO CO. LTD.

Hongkong, 22nd August, 1908. [135]

KOWLOON

HOTEL.

"THE CATCH OF THE

COLD SEASON."

MUSICAL DINNERS

EVERY

SATURDAY at 8 P.M.

SPECIAL MENU.

STRING BAND

IN ATTENDANCE.

DANCING

at 9.30 P.M.

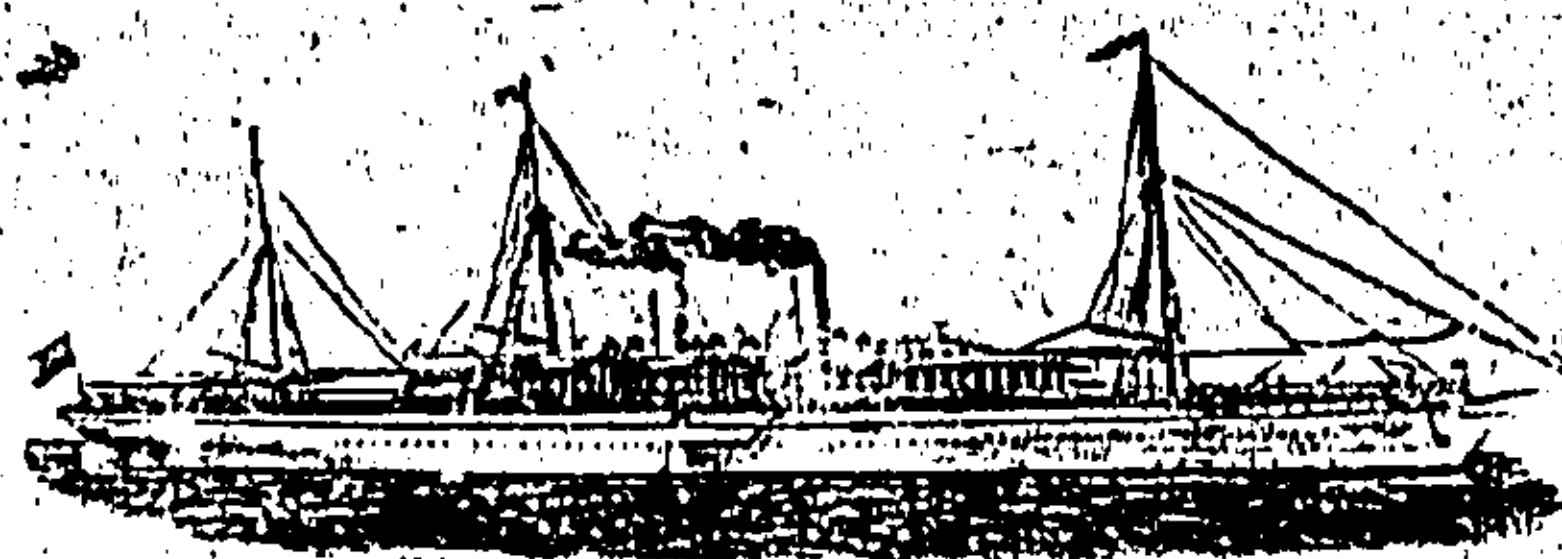
C. CHAYTOR, O.E. OWEN,

Manager. Proprietor.

Hongkong, 21st September, 1908. [14]

Shipping—Steamers.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY COY.'S ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIP LINE.



Luxury—Speed—Punctuality.

The only Line that Maintains a Regular Schedule Service of under 12 Days across the Pacific is the "Empress Line." Saving 5 to 10 Days Ocean Travel.

13 Days VOKOHA to VANCOUVER. 21 Days HONGKONG to VANCOUVER

PROPOSED SAILINGS. (Subject to Alteration).

R.M.S.	Tons	Leave Hongkong	Arrive Vancouver
"MONTEAGLE"	6,163	SATURDAY, Oct. 3rd	Oct. 27th
"EMPRESS OF INDIA"	6,000	SATURDAY, Oct. 17th	Nov. 7th
"EMPRESS OF JAPAN"	6,000	SATURDAY, Nov. 7th	Nov. 28th
"EMPRESS OF CHINA"	6,000	SATURDAY, Nov. 28th	Dec. 19th
"MONTEAGLE"	6,163	SATURDAY, Dec. 12th	Jan. 5th, 1909.
"EMPRESS OF INDIA"	6,000	SATURDAY, Dec. 26th	Jan. 16th

S.S. "LENNOX" and "GLENFARG" are Freighters only and do not carry Passengers.

"EMPRESS" steamships depart from Hongkong at 4 P.M.

S.S. "MONTEAGLE," "LENNOX" and "GLENFARG" at 12 Noon.

THE Quickest route to CANADA, UNITED STATES and EUROPE, calling at SHANGHAI, HAI, NAGASAKI, (through the INLAND SEA OF JAPAN), KOBE, YOKOHAMA, and VICTORIA, B.C., connecting at VANCOUVER with a Special Mail Express, and at QUEBEC, with the Company's New Palatial "EMPRESS" Steamships, 14,500 tons register, thus providing a comfortable and speedy through route to Europe.

Hongkong to London, 1st Class 7/6 Canadian Atlantic Ports or New York £71.10.
Hongkong to London, Intermediate £40.
Steamers, and 1st Class on Railways..... £42.

First-class rates to London include cost of Meals and Berth in Sleeping Car while crossing the American Continent by Canadian, Pacific direct line.

R.M.S. "MONTEAGLE" carries "Intermediate" Passengers only, at Intermediate rates, affording superior accommodation for that class.

Passengers Booked through to all points and AROUND THE WORLD.

SPECIAL THROUGH RATES (First class only) granted to Missionaries, Members of the Naval, Military, Diplomatic and Civil Services, and to European Officials in the Service of China and Japan Governments.

For further information, Maps, Routes, Hand Books, Rates of Freight and Passage, apply to D. W. ORADDOCK, General Traffic Agent for China, &c., Corner Pedder Street and Praya, Opposite Blaka Pier.

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LD.

(PROJECTED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.—SUBJECT TO ALTERATION)

Steamship	On
SINGAPORE, SAMARANG and CHUNANG	MONDAY, 28th Sept., 4 P.M.
SOURABAYA	YATSHING, MONDAY, 28th Sept., 4 P.M.
SHANGHAI, ANTONG and NEW-CHANG	YATSHING, THURSDAY, 1st Oct., Noon.
TIENSIN, YOKOHAMA, KOBE, CHEONGSHING	THURSDAY, 1st Oct., 4 P.M.
SHANGHAI, YOKOHAMA, KOBE, KUTSANG	FRIDAY, 2nd Oct., Noon.
MANILA	YUENSANG, FRIDAY 2nd Oct., 4 P.M.
SINGAPORE, PENANG & CALCUTTA, NAMSANG	FRIDAY 9th Oct., 1 P.M.
MANILA	LOONGSANG, FRIDAY, 9th Oct., 4 P.M.

RETURN TOURS TO JAPAN.

Occurring 14 DAYS.
The steamers Kiliang, Namsang and Fookang leave about every 3 weeks for Shanghai and Yokohama returning via Kobe (Inland Sea) and Moji to Hongkong, providing a stay of 5 to 6 days in Japan if passengers leave the steamer at Yokohama and rejoin at Kobe.

These vessels have all modern improvements and are fitted throughout with Electric Light.

A duly qualified surgeon is also carried.

* Steamers have superior accommodation for First-class Passengers, and are fitted throughout with Electric Light.

† Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to Yangtze Ports, Chefoo, Tientsin & Newchwang.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

JARDINE MATHESON & CO., LD.,

General Managers.

Telephone No. 61.
26th September, 1908.

CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LIMITED.

SAILINGS SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
HONGKONG & HAIPHONG	"OHIBLI"	27th Sept., 8 A.M.
TIENTSIN, CHEFOO & NEWCHANG	"KWANGSE"	29th " 4 P.M.
NINGPO & SHANGHAI	"YOOHOU"	29th " "
MANILA	"TAKING"	29th " "
CEBU & ILOILO	"SUNGKIANG"	6th Oct., "
MANILA, ZAMBOANGA and AUS.	"TAIYUAN"	10th " "

MANILA and TIENTSIN STEAMERS have superior Passenger accommodation with Electric Light throughout and Electric Fans in the Staterooms and Dining Saloon.

AUSTRALIAN STEAMERS have superior accommodation with Electric Light throughout and Electric Fans in the Staterooms. A duly qualified Surgeon is carried. Cargo booked through for all Australian, New Zealand and Tasmanian Ports.

SHANGHAI STEAMERS have good Saloon Passenger accommodation and take cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Yangtze and Northern China Ports.

Reduced Saloon Fares, Single and Return, to Manila and Australia.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,

AGENTS.

Telephone No. 36.
26th September, 1908.

HONGKONG—MANILA.

Highest Class, newest, fastest and most luxurious Steamers between Hongkong and Manila.—Saloon amidships—Electric Light—Perfect Cuisine—Surgeon and Stewards carried.—All the most up-to-date arrangements for comfort of Passengers.

CHINA AND MANILA STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

Steamship	Tons	Captain	For	Sailing Dates
ZAFIRO	2540	R. Rodger	MANILA	SUNDAY, 27th Sept., at 10 A.M.
RUBI	2540	Almond	"	SATURDAY, 3rd Oct., at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

SHEWAN TOMES & CO.,

GENERAL MANAGERS.

Hongkong, 26th September, 1908.

Shipping—Steamers.



THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

STEAM

FOR STRAITS, CEYLON, AUSTRALIA, INDIA, ADEN, EGYPT, MEDITERRANEAN PORTS, PLYMOUTH AND LONDON.

(Through Bills of Lading issued for BATAVIA, PERBIAH GULF, CONTINENTAL, AMERICA and SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS.)

THE Steamship

"DEVANHA."

Captain T. H. Hida, R.N.R., carrying His Majesty's Mails, will be despatched from this for BOMBAY, &c., on SATURDAY, the 3rd October, at Noon, taking Passengers and Cargo for the above Port in connection with the Company's S.S. "Victoria," 7,000 tons, from Colombo. Passengers' accommodation in which vessel is secured before departure from Hongkong.

Silk and Valuables, all Cargo for France, and Tea for London (under arrangement) will be transhipped at Colombo into the Mail steamer proceeding direct to Marseilles and London, other Cargo for London, &c., will be conveyed direct by the R.M.S. "Persia," due in London on 14th November, 1908.

Parcels will be received at this Office until 4 P.M. the day before sailing. The Contents and Value of all Packages are required.

For further Particulars, apply to

F. J. ABBOTT,

Acting Superintendent.

Hongkong, 19th September, 1908.

NORTHERN PACIFIC LINE

Connecting at Tacoma with NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY.

Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Overland Common Points in the United States of America and Canada, and also for the principal ports in Mexico, and Central and South America.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG FOR VICTORIA, B.C. AND TACOMA, VIA

KEELUNG, MOJI, KOBE, YOKKAICHI, SHIMIZU AND YOKOHAMA.

Steam	Cons	Captain	To Sail
Inverle	4,789	W. J. D. Edmonds	Sept. 27, noon
Craigvar	4,415	W. J. D. Edmonds	Oct. 9, noon
Swartie	6,235	W. J. D. Edmonds	Nov. 10, noon
Kumertie	6,235	F. S. Cowley	Dec. 1, noon
Yeddo	4,503	G. B. McGill	Dec. 22, noon

These steamers are specially fitted for the carriage of Asiatic Steerage passengers.

PARCEL EXPRESS TO THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

For further Information, apply to

DODWELL & CO., LIMITED,

General Agents.

Queen's Buildings, Hongkong, 26th September, 1908.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

FOR SHANGHAI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.

THE Company's Steamship

"CALEDONNIEN."

Captain Martin, will be despatched for the above Ports on or about MONDAY, the 28th instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

P. NALIN,

Acting Agent.

Hongkong, 23rd September, 1908.

REGULAR STEAMSHIP SERVICE TO NEW YORK.

VIA PORTS AND SUEZ CANAL.

(With Liberty to Call at Malabar Coast.)

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

FOR NEW YORK & BOSTON:

S.S. "SHIMOSA".....13th Oct., Noon.

For Freight and further Information, apply to

DODWELL & CO., LIMITED,

Agents.

Hongkong, 25th September, 1908.

STEAM TO CANTON.

THE New Twin Screw Steel Steamers

"KWONG TUNG".....Capt. H. W. WALKER.

"KWONG SAI".....Capt. E. S. CROWE.

Leave Hongkong for Canton at 9 every evening, (Saturday excepted).

Leave Canton for Hongkong at 5.30 every evening, (Sunday excepted).

These Fine New Steamers have unequalled Accommodation for First Class Passengers and are lit throughout by Electricity. Electric Fans in First Class Cabin.

Passage Fare—Single Journey.....\$4.

Meals.....\$1.25 each.

The Company's Wharf is situated, in front of the New Western Market, opposite the old Harbour Office.

YUEN ON S.S. CO., LD.,

and

SHIU ON S.S. CO., LD.,

No. 8, Queen's Road West.

Hongkong, 26th Sept., 1908.

Shipping—Steamers.

FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA.

THE Steamship

"CATHERINE APCAR,"

Captain W. D. A. Thomas, will be despatched for the above Ports on TUESDAY, the 29th inst., at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

DAVID SASSOON & CO., LIMITED,

Agents.

Hongkong, 25th September, 1908.

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND FOOCHEW.

THE Company's Steamship

"HAITAN."

Captain Roach, will be despatched for the above Ports on TUESDAY, the 29th inst., at 2 o'clock P.M.

A reduction of 20% on First Class Fares to Foochow will be made during the Month of September.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

DOUGLAS LARPAIK & Co.,

General Managers.

Hongkong, 25th September, 1908.

EASTERN AND AUSTRALIAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE, (Calling at Port Darwin and Queensland Ports, and taking through Cargo to Adelaide, New Zealand, Tasmania, &c.)

THE Steamship

"EMPIRE."

Captain Helms, will be despatched as above on THURSDAY, the 15th October, at Noon.

This well-known Steamer is specially fitted for Passengers, and has a Refrigerating Chamber which ensures the supply of Fresh Provisions, Ice, &c., throughout the voyage.

The Steamer is insulated throughout with the Electric Light.

A Stewardess and a duly qualified Surgeon are carried.

N.B.—To assure the additional comfort of passengers the steamers of the Company have electric fans fitted in staterooms.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,

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Hongkong, 21st September, 1908.

UNITED STATES AND CHINA JAPAN STEAMSHIP LINE.

FOR NEW YORK VIA SUEZ CANAL.

THE Steamship

"INDRANI."

Captain Macfarlane, will be despatched as above on or about MONDAY, 19th October.

For Freight, apply to

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,

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Hongkong, 22nd September, 1908.

Entimations

MUSIC LESSON.

LESSONS in Violin, Mandoline and Guitar at pupils' residence.

Evening engagements for Dances and Concerts.

Apply to—

E. J. LOPES,

Ojo Hongkong Telegraph Office.

Hongkong, 9th March 1908.

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VARIOUS SHAPES AND COLOURS

SHOES! SHOES! SHOES!

IN

BLK. AND TAN GLACE KID

from the best American Manufacturers

FLANNELS, TWEEDS, SERGES,

Ladies' DRESSING GOWNS

and JACKETS.

Samples on application. Coat

ports orders carefully executed.

Hongkong, 26th September, 1908.

AN APPEAL.

THE SUPERIORESS of the ITALIAN CONVENT, QUAIR ROAD, begs most respectfully to APPEAL to the Residents of Hongkong and the Coast Ports for their kind patronage and support, and desires to state that the will be pleased to receive orders for all kinds of NEEDLE WORK.

Gentlemen's Shirts made to order, and Collars renewed on old ones.

Ladies and Children's Under-clothing, Children's Dresses, and all kinds of Embroidery. Materials can be supplied, if required.

The Superiores will also be most grateful for any PATCHES, or old ENVELOPES to be made into Books for the Children of the Poor School who are taught by the Sisters.

Hongkong, 26th Sept., 1908.

KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY.

PROGRESS WELL MAINTAINED.

Speaking on the subject of the Kowloon-Canton Railway, in his budget speech to the Legislative Council on Thursday, the Governor said—

It is estimated that by the end of this year the total expenditure incurred on the railway will have reached the sum of \$6,288,075, while the expenditure in 1909 is estimated at \$7,250,655, leaving \$591,515 for expenditure in 1910 to complete, with the exception of the items not estimated, and of which we can form no estimate until we know our position in regard to the Canton section. On February 6th, last, I made a full statement to the Council on the subject of the railway, both in regard to construction and finance, and I invited any questions that honourable members might desire to put to me so that I might afford any additional information in my power. Apparently, my statement was sufficiently explicit and detailed, for no member asked for any additional information. I have not much to add to-day. Progress has been well maintained. The tunnel leading from north and south has now reached a total of 4,633 feet out of 7,156 or 64 per cent. Progress under the able superintendence of Mr. Waite has till recently been at the rate of nearly ten feet per day. Latterly, exceedingly hard rock has been encountered and this has reduced the rate of progress by about a half, and greatly increased the cost. The Chief Resident Engineer anticipates an excess on the estimated expenditure on the tunnel which will absorb the saving on earth work. I hope that this heading may be through before the middle of next year. The lining, including such portions as do not need to be lined, is computed at 2,340 feet, viz., one half of the distance reached by the heading. At the end of last year the proportion was only one quarter. The tunnel practically began on the 21st January, 1907, and the average progress per week was 5.8 feet, whereas from January 1st this year the average weekly progress has been 9.76. The proportion of lining to heading at the end of last year was a fourth, and it is now a half. Much difficulty has been experienced in No. 8 tunnel near Tai-po. There, continued land slides undid the work as fast as it was done. This has now been overcome and the work is going on well.

The Chief Resident Engineer reports fair progress in earth work, but not so good as he had hoped, owing to unexpected hardness of rock and to labour difficulties. He has however now succeeded in letting several large contracts to reliable contractors, and he anticipates a saving on the whole vote. I regret to say that I have felt much anxiety regarding the foundations of some of the bridges, and in order to reassure myself I appointed the Director of Public Works and Mr. Williams, lately in the charge of the Naval Dock, as an expert committee to inspect them and report to me. I have forwarded the report, with the observations of the Chief Resident Engineer, to the Secretary of State for communication to the Civil Engineers who are responsible to this Government for the efficiency of the construction in all technical matters. I have not yet received their reply, and meanwhile I directed work on the bridges to be arrested. It is only fair to the Chief Resident Engineer to add that he is confident that the bridges are sound.

I am glad to be able to inform you that much better progress has been made since the date of my speech on the railway by the contractors for the reclamation and heavy cutting between Kowloon and the southern mouth of the tunnel. Mr. Griffith, on behalf of Messrs. Leigh and Orange, has devoted much of his personal time and attention to the work, and good progress has been made with the sea wall and reclamation. The work on the whole appears to be proceeding approximately at contract rate, but the initial loss of about five months cannot be made up. This matter is forming the subject of amicable negotiation between the Government and the contractors, and I hope that we shall shortly come to an arrangement whereby the dates of completion shall be extended with reciprocal benefits to the Government and an increased penalty for overtime. I am convinced that this arrangement is the best that can be come to, and it is based on the advice of the Hon. Director of Public Works, and is assented to by the Chief Resident Engineer. From the best information at my disposal, I think I can with some confidence assure you that our section will be open to traffic at least as soon, and probably much sooner than the Canton section which adjoins ours at Samchee; and I hope that a temporary line will be in operation some time before the whole line is finally completed, which will meet all the requirements of local traffic, probably by March, 1909. Papers were laid on the Council table early this year detailing progress to the end of 1907 and a similar report will be submitted at the close of the present year. I am not at present in a position to say anything about the negotiations for a joint working agreement further than that the Chief Resident Engineer is open to settle such matters as types of rolling stock, points of junction, etc., as demand immediate solution.

THE Steamship

"EMPIRE."

Captain Helms, will be despatched as above on THURSDAY, the 15th October, at Noon.

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The Steamer is insulated throughout with the Electric Light.

A Stewardess and a duly qualified Surgeon are carried.

N.B.—To assure the additional comfort of passengers the steamers of the Company have electric fans fitted in staterooms.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,

Agents.

Hongkong, 21st September, 1908.

UNITED STATES AND CHINA JAPAN STEAMSHIP LINE.

FOR NEW YORK VIA SUEZ CANAL.

THE Steamship

"INDRANI."

Captain Macfarlane, will be despatched as above on or about MONDAY, 19th October.

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Hongkong, 22nd September, 1908.

Entimations

MUSIC LESSON.

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The Hongkong Telegraph.

MAIL SUPPLEMENT.

(ESTABLISHED 1851.)

NEW SERIES No. 5884

號二初月九年四十三緒光

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1908.

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Plumtree Mauled by a Tiger.

The Chinese in Malaya.

ping lines. According to the Budget for the current fiscal year the total amount of shipping subsidies is estimated at twelve million yen. Unless the law relating to shipping subsidies is amended there is no doubt that the expenditure will steadily go on increasing year after year. As the first step towards the readjustment of finance it is advisable that the bounties now paid for the regular lines, abroad should be abolished. Fortunately the contracts for subsidizing these lines come to an end at the end of 1909, so that a decision should be taken not to renew the contracts. The Government is now paying a certain amount of bounty to the regular lines to Europe, America, and Australia, in order to develop trade with those continents, but the amount of subsidy paid is rather excessive, and a return commensurate with the outlay is not to be obtained. The Company concerned may put vessels of an obsolete type on the lines, and however unnecessary or unproductive some of the regular lines may be, the Government is bound to pay the stipulated amount of bounty so long as the contracts remain in force. Not only so, but a company which has the advantage of such protection tends to crush the competition of unprotected ships, and is thereby hampering the healthy development of the maritime industry of the country. In such circumstances it is advisable that in the next session the Diet should not vote a renewal of the contracts if the matter comes before the Houses for approval. It may be contended, continues the Tokyo journal, that the discontinuance of the subsidy on these regular lines will have the effect of atrophying the shipping industry which has been nurtured at the expenditure of so much money. Such, however, will not be the case. Even though the grant of the special bounty be rescinded, the shipowners can obtain a subsidy under the provisions of the Navigation Encouragement Law, though this law also requires amendment. The grant provided under this law is on such a liberal scale that the shipowners will not suffer from the want of encouragement on the special bounty being abolished. Japan is at present paying ¥4,300,000 annually for the maintenance of the three lines mentioned. That a company with a capital of 22 million yen can enjoy a Government grant of over five million yen annually is perhaps without a parallel in the world, and is evidently an abuse of the principle of protection. The Government should either totally abolish the special bounty, or, if there are circumstances which necessitate some grant, the expenditure should be greatly cut down. At the same time the Navigation Encouragement Law should also be revised so as to meet the needs of the present situation.

SHIPPING RINGS IN THE FAR EAST.

(21st September.)

In a colony where shipping is all-important, the report by the Registrar of Imports and Exports in the Straits Settlements of "rings" and "conferences" must prove of interest. The report, which was laid before the Legislative Council of the Straits, is summarised in a most interesting way by the *Straits Times*. The Registrar is almost as severe in his strictures as Mr. Clement was when reporting on the opium trade of China. For example he observes that, the recent inquiry held on the subject was most desirable in the interests of Singapore whose trade is being throttled by a number of so-called conferences, which are worked in the interest of ship-owners, who have little concern in its welfare except as a source of profit, because the cargo has to go forward, if not from Singapore, from other ports of call or outports, where their agents are prepared to grant through bills of lading often at the same rates of freight. The majority of those forming the Committees of the Chambers of Commerce belong to firms in receipt of special or secret rebates, and therefore can hardly be expected to express their views without bias. That is one of those straight statements which must be as gall and wormwood to the ship owner or agent who is influenced by more important firms. We learn that there are in Singapore and Penang, known to be five Shipping Rings, besides which the rebate system is in operation to Rangoon and Bangkok. The first and most important is that termed "The Straits Homebound Conference," which is a combination of steamship owners and merchants, most of whom are steamship agents, and the operations of which extend to European ports. That the Conference could not have been successfully carried on for so many years, if special advantages in the form of secret rebates had not been granted to the larger firms, goes without saying, for the latter generally hold steamship agencies and the commissions gained on this portion of their business, combined with a share in five per cent. of all freights from the Straits, seem too great advantages to risk losing, by chartering vessels or otherwise encouraging competition. Mr. Stuart, the Registrar, gives a resume of the Commission's decision and reviews them, extensively. He points out that the position as regards the fact that merchants in Singapore have practically no option but to ship their goods by steamers of Conference lines is unchanged, and no attempts have been made to attract other vessels by means of subsidies or otherwise, the loss of rebate being too serious to incur and larger independent firms too few in number. When the Conference began operations, it raised rates to what may be presumed to be a fair level, 20s. to London for general cargo, 22s. 6d. to Liverpool, and 20s. to the Continent, excluding Havre, Bremen and Hamburg, and as the admitted object was to raise freight to a fair paying level, why it did

so, or failed to carry out the purpose for which it was established. There is, however, ample evidence to show that the policy has been not to charge fair rates but to "bleed" cargo. Thus in May, 1900, the freight on 100 was raised from 27s. 6d. to 41s. Now, this is an excellent class of cargo, easily handled, stowed and seldom lost, and as one ton occupies eight cubic feet the ship-owner no doubt rejoiced at the prospects of receiving over £12 per 50 cubic feet. The managing director of the steaming company which deals with over two-thirds of the production, threatened so successfully to sell in London, and thus deprive the local members of the Conference who are merchants of the handling of the trade, that in one week the old rate was reverted to. The same policy was again pursued in November, 1906, when the rate was raised by 5s. and again the energetic remonstrance of the gentleman now holding this position in the company, and by much the same tactics, compelled the Conference to reduce the rate not only by the new addition but by 7s. 6d. or 2s. 6d. less. It has not been denied that other ports, not so favourably situated enjoyed lower rates, and it is on record that only last year from the port of Macassar, which is further from the market of consumption, rattans were being sent as damage at 45s. per 20 cwt., against 75s. charged in Singapore. A protest of shippers here resulted in the rate being raised to the Singapore level. An important statement which all who have watched the freight market know to be true is to the effect that the expansion of such a place as Macassar, which, like Singapore, is not a producer, but collects from other places, is attributed by some to better shipping and banking facilities, and the position now taken up by Conference apologists is, that expansion of other eastern places and consequent direct dealing with Europe would have occurred in the ordinary course, though it may be Conference operations have hastened the inevitable. But, as is well known, the demand for outward tonnage from Europe to the Far East is far in excess of homeward requirements; therefore the position of Singapore, lying in the main way of this ocean trade, entitled it to look for cheaper freights than places lying in distant seas out of the direct route, and even a level market with equal freights is an injustice to this port, which, by its facilities for loading, cheaper coal, quicker despatch, and fine harbour, is far in advance of most of its competitors. Mr. Stuart gives an example of the manner in which foreign interests are fostered, with the explanation that the Conference does not confine its tenderness in the interests of American consumers to one article, but that the obliging British ship-owners would carry on January 1 of this year a description of produce to London at the quoted rate, and there tranship it from one vessel to another and carry it more than 3,000 miles further, to Boston or Philadelphia for 15s. additional. Great Britain, as a distributor, has lost ground largely owing to the more favourable rates to America and the Continent. With such a large number of interested lines—British vessels belonging to the Glen, Ben and Shire companies for some years took little or no cargo from Singapore, but searched at other places as far distant as the Pacific Coast, the Philippines and so forth, for freight taken it is needless to say, at competitive rates. No doubt they were recompensed by a share in the profits realised by the Conference after deduction of ten per cent. to shippers on all Straits freights paid to some of the principal merchants in Singapore and the amount which was presumed to be fair and adequate for the carriage home by the various vessels; but details of the inner working of the Ring have never become public. In a summary at the end of the report, Mr. Stuart shows that the total net loss of produce trade from Singapore during ten years under Conference operation is 5,746,000 piculs (excluding articles showing values only and jeltong, a new trade), and he states that the making of deferred rebates illegal has been suggested as a practical remedy, which, however, might be paid from a foreign country and thus present difficulties in obtaining the necessary evidence. The fixing of fair freights by Government and taxing heavily all amounts over these rates, which could be utilised to encourage other lines to freely enter the market, is another suggestion; but these points have no special application to this locality only. The report is at all events worthy of the attention of the Shipping community of Hongkong.

AMERICAN TRADE WITH ASIA.

(22nd September.)

The Press in the United States continues to devote considerable space to the recent decision of the railway companies concerning the transport of freight as affecting the Pacific line of steamers. Writing in a recent issue, the *San Francisco Chronicle* observes:—As was expected, the trans-continental railroad lines will from November 1st cease all attempts to secure import or export business by way of the Pacific. That means that none of the railroads will after that date endeavour to secure business for ships on the Pacific by meeting competition as it exists from day to day by the Suez route. The rates between Asia and Interior points in the United States via Puget Sound or San Francisco will be the regular published railroad rates from ports of entry plus whatever rates the steamship companies may choose to make. Whatever the burden of competition, the steamship companies must bear it all. As the Atlantic companies are in a position to temporarily reduce rates on Asiatic business to a point sufficient to drive American Pacific steamer off the main

that will doubtless be done, except in one contingency. The subsidized Japanese ships can and doubtless will make rates which, added to the regular railroad rates to the interior, will make some competition for the Suez route. Even Japanese ships may not be able to run at a profit, for the Atlantic companies which take business for Europe, the Levant, and all points between New York and Yokohama can, perhaps, make rates on traffic east of Singapore which even the Japanese cannot meet on the Pacific, and will be able to maintain soliciting agencies in towns where a solicitor of a Pacific line could not earn office rent. The result of the ruling of the Interstate Commission, that rates between interior points in the United States and non-contiguous foreign countries must be published like domestic rates, necessarily broke up the Pacific carrying trade in American bottoms. It cannot be too soon in the face of Suez competition. Whether the Japanese can get it remains to be seen. The business will be turned over to them to try. A Japanese line may represent American capital, but will fly the Japanese flag and be manned by Japanese. It is not at all possible that a Japanese company can compel existing Suez lines to hold up rates and stop cut-throat competition. In their lines from Yokohama to India they have means of retaliation which Americans lack. However, disastrous the result, the Interstate Commerce Commission is not to blame. The fault lies in legislation hastily enacted in a vindictive spirit at the behest of agitators who see profit to themselves in vicious attacks on all forms of prosperity. The passage of a rate bill and the reduction of the great corporations to obedience to the law was a vital necessity. If they had in good faith co-operated in perfecting the law this and many minor inconveniences would have been spared to the public. When they would not co-operate but fought all effective regulation, it was inevitable that sweeping provisions of the law would have effects not foreseen by their authors. As conditions are day-day, any attempt to regulate rates from interior points in America to non-contiguous foreign countries by any impairment whatever of freedom of action on the part of the railroads must result in the best-situated ocean lines getting the entire trade and keeping it until they can safely raise rates to suit themselves. If we desire an American Pacific steamship service, concludes our San Francisco contemporary, we must repeal all provisions of law which impair the ease and vigour of its competition, and must also pay such rates for ocean postage as will fully offset the Japanese subsidies and low wages.

ON THE QUESTION OF SHIPPING RINGS.

(23rd September.)

In several leading articles recently the *Singapore Free Press* has been conducting a crusade against the combine known as the Shipping Conference and the system of secret rebates. The first of the series appeared in our contemporary on the 16th inst. and consists of a summary of the evidence collected from various sources which are stated, and the formulation of the charges which have been made against the operations of the Conference. The subject is of interest not merely to Singapore but to merchants in the Far East generally and a synopsis of the conclusions arrived at by our contemporary may not be out of place, in view of the importance of the shipping trade of Hongkong. The evidence, it may be stated, is contained in several official and other documents, not to say statements. They are set out in tabulated form by the *Free Press* in the following way: The report of the Commission (Straits Home Conference) 1902; the Colonial Secretary's report (Straits) for 1907; the report of the sub-committee of the Singapore Chamber of Commerce; the report of the Registrar of Imports and Exports, Singapore, 1897; the expressed opinion of public men, interested and disinterested; the private opinion of public men, which would astonish most people if it could be published; general public opinion expressed and unexpressed; common sense and figures. These look like important bodies, although, in our opinion, the opinions of those who have nothing to do with the subject might have been waived, likewise the last remarks. At all events, when a person feels strongly on a subject, it is probable that he will give vent to expressions which, as they say in Court, "are not admissible." Now, then, we come to the really serious part of the business—the charges. The charges, we are told, rather a little too solemnly, are that they are entirely based on public policy. They proceed to say that because the Conference has secured a monopoly of the traffic, that monopoly tends to frustrate the indictment, bleed the trade of the Colony and render it unprofitable to the majority of merchants, thereby reducing the wealth of the community, acquired and prospective; reduce the public revenue and cripple the progress of the Colony, throw British trade to neighbouring foreign ports, to Continental ports, and into foreign hands and foreign ship-owners; cause the downfall of British houses and injuriously injured others, drive away British shipping and encourage foreign shipping, so the hand of merchants and shippers that to live at all, they are obliged to accept the arbitrary dictates of a secret conference in London, as to what trade shall pay by the way of freights—introduce under the guise of eliminating speculation an unprincipled machine fixing freights without notice in place of the ordinary trade law of supply and demand. Our contemporary goes on to

claim that the Colony to lose the handling of six million piculs of produce trade and drive away annually 45,000 tons of shipping, raise freights by hundreds percent. On this question we may as well quote the *Free Press* again: "On this evidence and on these charges we ask the Government to step in, as being the only power that can prevent the process of deterioration of our trade, and pass an Ordinance declaring that secret rebates are illegal. It would be better if they would go further and declare all combinations in restraint of trade illegal, but that is perhaps a step beyond what British public opinion is prepared for at present." All that may be beautiful and fine, but would they want us to send our goods by tramp steamers who have no rate whatever and whose excursions cannot be accounted for? No doubt the combine system is wrong in principle, but we very much doubt if it has been found to be wrong in action. It would not pay them to be so. The suggestion that rates have been raised hundreds per cent. is quite true in a way, but why? We would suggest that it is simply due to enforced competition. More than that: Was there ever a time when people in the Far East could go home so snugly and comfortably at a low charge than at the present day? It may be remembered that two or three years ago Sir Thomas Sutherland said that passages to Bombay were something under a penny a mile. Can any body say that freight—we speak of silk and the products of South China—can be much less? They are as a matter of fact so much less to suit the convenience and the ability of the exporter. We quote again from our contemporary in the Straits: "There is an overwhelming balance of public opinion and public evidence against the operations of the Conference and the Secret Rebates. So much the easier for the Government to act. It might be advantageous, however, for some Unofficial Member of Council to ask a question whether the Government intends to take legislative action. And then the *F.M.* has sundry remarks to the men who should do those things. Now we want to reproduce what the *Press* says on the subject, leaving out what we hope are immaterial points.—In this case there was distinctly a need for the matter to be taken by the press. It was obvious that the merchants themselves would never bring the affair to publicity for various reasons previously enumerated. The Conference has, twice since the 1902 Shipping Rings Commission report, been severely criticised by Government, and we conceived it a public duty to underline the Government condemnation by bringing forward that evidence which lay so close to hand, evidence which supported the Government condemnation, evidence which under the peculiar circumstances we believe would never have received anything like such complete publicity had not the press undertaken to bring it forward. There has been throughout no question of sensational newspaper agitation. The facts have been gathered from official reports and from the opinions and knowledge of men well qualified to judge, the presentation of those facts has been in such form as was considered would best bring home their meaning to all who should see them. There has been much pessimism displayed throughout by many sound business men. It has been questioned whether anything can be done. To our mind that question should never have been asked, there is no wrong which the wit of man can circumvent, and we do not even believe that heroic measures are necessary. What is necessary now, as we have pointed out above, is that Government shall exercise its Crown Colony autonomy in a matter in which they will have the entire, even if unspoken, backing of the mercantile community, and a measure can be devised by the Government of this Colony, which will so operate as to free the trade of this port from a burden which it has unwillingly borne for many years at the dictation of a certain clique.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BUSINESS.

(24th September.)

What is usually considered the most important meeting of the Legislative Council during the year was held this afternoon, when the Budget was presented by His Excellency the Governor and the estimates laid on the table. To a large extent the presentation of these to the members of the Council marks the progress and condition of the Colony and the prospects for its prosperity in the ensuing year. On this occasion special interest attaches to the estimates mainly on account of the unusual state of affairs created by the agitation against the use of opium and the projected abolition of the opium monopoly. From a cursory glance at the bulky volume of figures containing the Estimates for 1909 it does not at first sight seem as if any very drastic measures are to be enforced next year, the main items of expenditure being about the same as in the current year, while the principal difference in the revenue is due to the transfer of some \$400,000 from the Defunct Widows and Orphans Fund to general revenue. With regard to opium the monopoly remains the same as during the present year, although there is a trifling reduction in the licences, owing to the proposed reduction in the issue for 1909. At the Council meeting, Mr. Murray Stewart, as will be seen from the report, traverses the Under-Secretary for State's speech on the opium question, delivered in the House of Commons. He also deals in a very suggestive way with the vexed question of the prosecutions instituted by the Building Authority against property owners. His question with regard to

the railway was answered in a manner which may lead later on to a resolution being moved on the subject. The business of the meeting was finished when the Council went into Finance Committee and passed, or rather recommended the adoption of, an exceptionally large number of minutes, but none of the financial votes was of very great import.

THE ESTIMATES.

(25th September.)

When His Excellency the Governor set out to frame his introductory speech on the Estimates it is reasonable to suppose that he called to his assistance the heads of the various official departments under the Government to assist him in his task. And it is reasonable also to suppose that none of those heads was so circumcised, or shall we say, so inclined that he was anxious to look at the affairs, conduct and administration of his particular department as to present an entirely unbiassed opinion of the results achieved during the year. Therefore, the Governor's statements and conclusions are, in a way, the reflex of his subordinates' ideas and aspirations rather than their admission of the actual condition of things. We take advantage of His Excellency's suggestion that his statements—for which he must of course be held responsible whatever the source—to submit a few considerations which we are afraid will not in every case coincide with his views. We do not intend to traverse his assertions—which we assume is the proper term to use in this connection—in their entirety but to deal generally with some of the contentions which were used as arguments by His Excellency in the course of his marvellously lengthy address. Taking it for granted that the vast majority of our readers have assimilated, or attempted to assimilate, the complex figures relating to the estimated revenue and expenditure of Hongkong for 1909—and we are compelled to say that unless they had the Estimates in printed form before them they must have fancied themselves in the throes of a nightmare, without beginning or end—we will for a moment regard the highly optimistic tone of the Governor in dealing with the finances of this Colony. Of course all Governments are optimistic; it is their duty and policy to be optimistic; but, as Burns said, "facts are chieftains that winna ding" and it is facts which we propose to present and deductions from those facts which apparently escaped His Excellency's attention. Almost in the opening words of his speech, the Governor suggested that the barometer of our financial position was to a certain extent affected by the land sales, the barometer and tides being, figuratively, similar of the speaker. If the land sales are satisfactory then the prosperity of the Colony is assured, said His Excellency in effect. Well, we take him at his word and regard the land sales of 1908 and those estimated for next year, in order to discover the reason for the optimism which is in him. The normal revenue—and mark the word "normal"—derived from land sales is \$300,000, but in 1907 they only realised \$159,000 and this year they are expected to fall to \$120,000. Next year it is estimated that the sum to be obtained from this quarter will amount to \$150,000. In other words, the land sales which stand as our barometer indicating progress, are to be fifty per cent. under normal, so that instead of the instrument pointing to "better weather" as His Excellency put it we should say it points to "rain and wind-storms." The Colony, on the Governor's own showing, is so far below normal that even optimistic estimates only place it at half-bad. If the chief administrator has so little faith in the future as revealed by his figures, how are ordinary matter-of-fact citizens who take figures as their guide to trust in an optimism based on a fifty per cent. basis below normal? Coming to another point which we have dealt with on many occasions, we are gratified to learn that our contention regarding the real meaning of the transference of the Widows and Orphans Fund was well grounded. In all the voluminous despatches which passed between the Secretary of State and the Government of Hongkong on the subject of this Fund, which is all-important to the contributors and beneficiaries, it was laid down in precise language that the Government, in assuming control, and converting the Fund into general revenue, was acting the role of a philanthropic guardian. It was a case of saving the people—the members of the Civil Service—from themselves. So benign and considerate was the Government that it was resolved at all costs to capture that unearned increment and utilise it as thought fit. Who that read the Colonial Secretary's speech in answer to the arguments of Mr. Murray Stewart could think otherwise, unless they were misguided churls? Yet all along we voiced the opinion that the action of the Government was a deliberate attempt to snatch—to use no harsher term—the compulsory savings of the Civil Servants from their care and secure them as a set-off against any possible deficit. Were we wrong in that view or can the words of the Governor be taken to imply any other meaning than the one we suggested? The money, approaching \$400,000, is to be considered by the Government as a loan, to be invested in remunerative work which will benefit the Colony, but it is a loan that is never repayable. It may be argued that it is repayable in the shape of pensions, but we have only to refer to the fact that the annual contributions exceed \$20,000, while the out-payments are not estimated to be more than \$9,500 next year, to expose the fallacious nature of the argument. The punier who robbed the present of his own in order to found upon

The Hongkong Telegraph
MAIL SUPPLEMENT,
ISSUED GRATIS TO SUBSCRIBERS.

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1908.

SHIPPING SUBSIDIES IN JAPAN.

(19th September.)

Shipping subsidies in Japan is a question which engages a large amount of public attention and of the Government in that country while it is a prolific subject for "copy" to the vernacular journals. A recent number of the *Japan Chronicle* contains a translation of an article from the *Tokyo Asahi* which urges the Government to discontinue the payment of a bounty for the European, American, and Australian ship-

asylums' was not more charitable or im-
maculate than the Government—and, un-
less we read the Governor's speech wrongly,
His Excellency admits the fact. Not only
that, but there is a permanent danger that
the Colony will have to submit to taxation
in order that the Fund—which never cost
the ratepayers a single cash, and was entirely
outwith the public knowledge and adminis-
tration of the ratepayers' representatives, a
Fund, moreover, which was steadily growing
in excess of the pensions awarded or claimed
—there is a danger, we maintain, that the
people who have nothing to do with the
Fund, or the misdirected capital, may have
to pay for benefits which do not come to
them and for which they should
have no responsibility. But that is, after all,
an indeterminate question, which will never
be elucidated, seeing that the \$400,000 is
now merged in the general revenue. How-
ever, the absorption of the fund contributed
to the prosperity of the Colony, for which we
are all, or should be, extremely grateful. Let
us turn now to another indication shown by
the barometer kept and subsidised in Gov-
ernment quarters. We are told that because
the trade of Canton is increasing it may be
very properly deduced that the trade of Hong-
kong is bound to flourish. Time and again
we have endeavoured to present the view that
the very fact of Canton's prosperity, its in-
creasingly large direct foreign trade and the
establishment of factories which must in the
nature of things become the rivals of those
existing in Hongkong, constitutes a menace to
the future welfare of merchants and
traders in this Colony. One can-
not help wondering by what logical
sequence of ideas His Excellency
arrived at the opinion that the progress
of Canton implied the prosperity of Hong-
kong. We confidently submit that the re-
verse is the only true and consistent
condition. Will it be maintained that be-
cause the Provincial Government of the two
Kwang is fostering the development of a
cement factory—erected, certainly, by private
individuals but nevertheless under the
aegis of the Viceroy—the result of
its operations will not affect the Hok On
Cement Works? Is it to be suggested that
the glass factory at Canton can have no
detrimental effects on the factory estab-
lished in Hongkong? His Excellency
has spoken frequently and emphatically of
his desire to see this Colony become in a
measure independent of the shipping trade
by the inauguration of industrial enterprises,
but if Canton follows suit, as it is doing, and
if these industries in Canton are protected,
encouraged and stimulated to greater
efforts how is Hongkong to be bene-
fited? What about the weaving factory
started in Canton, which is to rob Hong-
kong of its immense godown business in the
storage of cotton yarn; and what of the
vessels, carrying the raw product from
India, which ignore Hongkong as a distri-
butor, and are practically our only hope
of salvation? Again we fear that we are in
disagreement with the conclusion which His
Excellency emphasised in support of his opti-
mistic beat of mind. Canton, in our opinion,
will develop at the expense of Hongkong and
no power on earth can prevent it. When His
Excellency was enjoying the record of the
Commissioner of Customs did he happen to
read the statement by Consul-General Man-
field to the effect that the Cantonese excel all
other natives of China in intellect, business
capacity and initiative, and did he remember
that the vigour of that irrepressible desire to
advance accounts in great degree for the
present position of this Colony? His Ex-
cellency the Governor placed infinite stress
on the fact that the Chairman of the
directorate of the Hongkong and Shang-
hai Banking Corporation holds 'rosy views
of the future. Mr. Shellm is un-
questionably right from the Bank's point
of view—and from the fact that the
Corporation is a dominating factor in the
financial affairs of China, but Hongkong is
not one of the issues in the actual sense of
the word. If it were, why should the
premier Bank of the Orient so restrict
trade that it prefers to invest huge sums
in absolutely unremunerative stocks in-
stead of seeking to develop local enter-
prise and encourage local initiative by the
adoption of an attitude of trade confidence?
Were the Bank to pursue a policy having as
its object the development of Hongkong
industries, a policy which its directors
could very materially assist by the circula-
tion of money, instead of locking up monu-
mental sums in gold investments and
securities in England and America—sums,
which we are in a position to assert, return
a mere one to one and a half per cent.
per annum—then the commercial develop-
ment of the Colony would be assured. The
Government can help local undertakings
by granting land on favourable terms while
the Bank can perform its share by affording
facilities in the way of advances to incipient
enterprises in order to pave the way to their
ultimate success. His Excellency described
with much gusto the inauguration of a quar-
antine station, which was for all practical
purposes handed over to the Government
as a gift by the emigration
agents who were engaged in the
South African coolie traffic, but we may
be permitted to observe that at least part
of the land might be reserved for the accom-
modation of those miserable deportees who
are at present exposed to the elements sum-
mer and winter at the Magistracy compound.
It would undoubtedly be an act of charity to
provide them with the decencies of civilisation,
rather than expend money in pampering
people who rather enjoy than otherwise the
experience of leading a lousy life under the
tender care of the Government. It is not as
if provision could not be made for these un-
fortunate misfits in life, because everything is
ready for their reception, even to the quar-
ters for those appointed to maintain order.
But perhaps the Government is above
acknowledging a suggestion, so we may
leave it at that. Reference was made to the
deficiency in the current year's Estimates re-
sulting from the fluctuations in exchange, but
never seems to enter the official mind that,
following the example of commercial bodies,
an equalisation fund could be established to
mitigate the vicissitudes in finance of those who
advise the Government—perhaps they say

be, and the Governor was extremely guarded
in his reference to them—as to the probable
silver values during the year. We cannot
approach in this article the numerous
other questions which call for comment, be-
yond remarking that His Excellency expressed
the opinion that the time was in-
opportune for the imposition of additional
taxation on the community. It would be
interesting to find out when the Govern-
ment thinks it will be opportune. The
cost of living is daily advancing and
nobody can say that we are enjoying
greater facilities, conveniences or com-
forts than those who lived in the Colony
when it was possible to exist on a mod-
erate income. Taxation is certain to come
as a greater burden, especially as there is
no other Widows and Orphans Fund to grab.
We were somewhat astonished to discover
that His Excellency failed to offer a word of
thanks to those unofficial members who give
their time and consideration to the affairs of
the Colony and seek to promote its interests
and assist the Government in every way, but
we may take it that the omission was an over-
sight which will some day be remedied.

Telegrams.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SERVICE.

GREAT BRITAIN AND CHINA.

PROPOSED RETURN OF BOXER INDEMNITY.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 18th September.

The British Government has telegraphed to the British Minister at Peking advising that, following the precedent set by the United States of America, the British Government is desirous of remitting part of the Boxer Indemnity to the Chinese Government.

The Foreign Office instructs Sir John Jordan to consider the proposal with the Waiwupu and report accordingly.

TANG SHAO-YI'S MISSION.

IMPATIENCE IN AMERICA.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 18th September.

Telegraphic instructions have been despatched by the United States Government to the American Minister in Peking to urge the Waiwupu to hasten the departure of H.E. Tang Shao-yi on his special mission to America.

AMERICA AND CHINA.

ANOTHER TREATY.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 18th September.

In a memorial the Waiwupu reports that a special Treaty, containing four clauses only, with America has been drawn up and asks that a Commissioner be appointed to sign the Treaty.

An Imperial Decree has been issued giving plenary powers to H.E. Wu Ting Fang, Chinese Minister to Washington, to sign the Treaty with the United States Government.

SHANGHAI LIBEL ACTION.

THE PRELIMINARY HEARING.

[From Our Own Correspondent]

Shanghai, 21st September,

2.45 p.m.

Mr. Henry O'Shea, editor and proprietor of the *China Gazette*, was, at the preliminary hearing at the Police Court, to-day, committed to trial on a charge of alleged criminal libel against Judge Wilday.

Mr. O'Shea intimated that his line of defence would be justification.

Bail was allowed in the sum of two thousand dollars.

[In this action, Mr. H. P. Wilkinson, Crown Advocate, is prosecuting, and the defence is in the hands of Mr. Francis Ellis and Mr. E. W. Godfrey.—Ed., H.K.T.]

ANOTHER CHINESE LOAN.

REDEMPTION OF PEKING- HANKOW RAILWAY.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 23rd September.

The Ministry of Posts and Communications has decided to raise a loan in the English money market for the equivalent of Tls. 50,000,000.

The money will be appropriated towards the redemption of the Peking-Hankow Railway.

TANG SHAO-YI'S MISSION.

DEPARTURE FROM PEKING.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 23rd September.

H.E. Tang Shao-yi, special commissioner to the United States of America, will leave Peking to-day.

FINANCE.

INSTRUCTIONS TO TANG SHAO-YI.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 23rd September.

Duke Tsai, president of the Board of Revenue, personally handed to H.E. Tang Shao-yi a memorandum on the subject of Finance.

Duke Tsai requested the Special Commissioner to conduct investigations into the various financial systems during his forthcoming sojourn in Foreign countries.

THE CHINESE BOYCOTT.

JAPANESE RETALIATION.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Honolulu, 23rd September.

In view of the persistence of the Chinese boycott of Japan and Japanese manufactures as conducted in China, the Japanese residents in Honolulu have retaliated by boycotting the Chinese fish market.

CHINA'S CURRENCY.

MACKAY TREATY STIPULATIONS.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 24th September.

In a memorial to the Throne H.E. Tang Shao-yi urged that steps be taken to give effect to the stipulations provided in the Mackay Treaty in respect of currency reform.

An Imperial edict has been issued approving H.E. Tang's suggestion.

KIAOCHAO.

THE CUSTOMS TARIFF.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po"]

Peking, 24th September.

The German Minister in Peking has requested the Waiwupu to revise the Customs Tariff for Kiaochao.

The Waiwupu refuses to entertain the suggestion.

TYphoon WARNINGS.

The American Consulate-General received the following telegrams from the Manila Observatory:

September 19th, 9 a.m.

Cyclone or typhoon east of Manila, less than 300 miles distant moving W.

September 22nd, 11 a.m.

Cyclone or typhoon over Visayas Islands moving W. or W.N.W.

September 23rd, 9.40 a.m.

Cyclone or typhoon over the Eastern Visayas; moving W.N.W.

September 24th, 10 a.m.

Cyclone or typhoon West of Mindoro, moving W.N.W.

WHERE IS MY WIFE?

AMERICAN-CHINESE WOMAN SUPPOSED TO HAVE ABSCONDED FROM THE COLONY.

A case which should have proved of interest came to a sudden collapse in the Police Court yesterday afternoon, when the defendant—a San Francisco Chinese woman named Tang Oi-fai—failed to appear. Tsui Oi was charged with making a false declaration to the Assistant Registrar-General (Mr. Hutchison) regarding the birth of a certain child.

The alleged facts of the case as they were told to one of our representatives were that Mrs. Tang Oi, who only recently returned from "God's country," went to Canton and bought a two-month-old child. Returning to Hongkong she proceeded to the office of the Registrar-General, and alleging that the child was her own, born in the Colony, asked for registration papers. The matter was investigated, and the true story was given to the Registrar-General, who caused the woman's arrest. She was released on \$750 bail.

When the case was called on this afternoon, by Mr. J. R. Wood, the accused did not put in an appearance.

Mr. Wood (Mr. Hutchison)—Are you in a position to prove that the child was not born in the Colony?—No.

You are not in a position then to prove that the child was not entitled to be registered here?—No.

His Worship said that even if the facts had been established, the woman's arrest and confinement would be a hardship, and he would discharge her on the condition that she should appear at the next hearing.

At this stage Police Sergeant O'Sullivan brought the accused's husband into the court-room. He was dressed in a black suit of American make, a brown silk shirt, but minus a tie. He could speak English, but he spoke in answer to the magistrate in Chinese.

"Where is your wife?" asked Mr. Wood.

"I don't know," replied the man, looking very uncomfortable.

"Is she going to turn up?" was the next query.

"The last time I saw her she said she would be here on Friday," was the answer.

"But is she coming?" the Court pursued.

The husband replied that he did not know.

Mr. Wood inquired who deposited the bail for her.

The husband did not know.

The Court adjourned the case sine die. A warrant was issued for the woman's arrest, and the magistrate threatened that if she did not put in an appearance within a week he would forfeit the bail.

Typhoon Aftermath.

STORY OF THE YAU-MATI COLLAPSES.

FIXING THE RESPONSIBILITY.

33rd Inst.

An inquiry was held at the Magistracy this afternoon, concerning the death of six persons who were killed in the collapse of a number of houses in Portland Street, Yau-mati, during the last typhoon.

Mr. J. H. Kemp acted as Coroner. The jury empanelled comprised Messrs. Frank Austen, Hugh Denning and G. G. Catchick.

Inspector McHardy was present on behalf of the police.

Mr. F. D. L. Bowley, Crown Solicitor, outlined the facts of the case. He stated that when the typhoon was raging on the 33rd of July, a number of persons who resided at Portland Street, Yau-mati, were killed in the collapse. The house, 36 Portland Street, was on the road near to the laundry, leading to Kowloon City. Between one and two o'clock in the morning of the 33rd July, the house in question along with the two adjoining premises, Nos. 38 and 40, collapsed. A few great troubles several people were taken out of the debris. Among those killed were two women and four men.

The object of this inquiry, said the Crown Solicitor, was to ascertain whether there was any culpable neglect on the part of any person. There was no doubt that the collapse of the building was due to the force of the wind, but it was essential to learn whether the building was in accordance with the regulations of the Building Authority. The house was a corner house, hitherto numbered "36," but after the collapse it was discovered that the house bore a wrong number and should have been "35." The end house of a block, which comprised 13 tenements, faced Portland Street. There was also another block of houses in Pitt Street, all of which were what open to the South-east.

Some years ago, continued the Crown Solicitor, Humphreys Estate and Finance Co. leased the land in question and built houses there—the usual three-storyed tenements. Plans were submitted to the Director of Public Works and a Note was deposited to show intention to build. Messrs. Palmer and Turner submitted the plans to the D. P. W., stating that on the estate that had been acquired it was the intention of the lessees to erect 26 houses.

The plans were sent to Mr. Tooker, who issued a notice that the conditions did not comply with the Ordinance.

The question was whether the wall was properly constructed. Mr. Tooker, said the Crown Solicitor, was now absent, and he was not in a position to state the length of the wall, but he afterwards learnt that the length was 45 feet. The plans were accepted by the P.W.D. and Messrs. Palmer and Turner were considered to be responsible. A Chinese contractor was engaged to erect the buildings, but it was possible that the contract had been sub-let to another man.

On the 14th of June, 1902, five verandahs collapsed. It was recorded by the Inspector of Buildings when recommended that all the verandahs and iron walls should be pulled down. That report was made to Mr. Tooker, and it was not known to the Crown Solicitor what had happened. On examination it was discovered by Mr. Haggard of the P.W.D. that the mortar was of poor quality.

On the night of the collapse there were altogether 21 persons in the house. Six were killed, and four injured. The cause of death was due to multiple injuries and asphyxia. The appearance of the bodies showed that they had been buried in the collapse of the house as they were all dusty and broken up. The inquiry is still proceeding.

A FRENCH DISPUTE.

TROUBLE OVER A CINEMATOGRAPH SHOW.

The action brought by Charles Nugent, a Frenchman, residing at 4, Zealand Street, against Auguste Daufresne, of 6, Ice House Street, to recover the sum of \$1,000, money lent to the defendant, was continued before Mr. Justice Gompertz, in the Supreme Court, last Wednesday.

Mr. O. D. Thomson, appeared for the plaintiff, while Mr. Otto Kong Sing represented the defendant.

It was stated by the plaintiff that he met the defendant at the end of last year and the latter said he had a project for a cinematograph. Plaintiff advanced him \$300 at the time. Defendant gave him no receipt. Plaintiff paid several of defendant's debts. In February of last year defendant owed him \$1,000, and the latter told him he had no money and no property. The difference between that and the amount claimed was explained by wages due to plaintiff, who worked for defendant. Plaintiff was to receive the balance over expenses, but defendant kept the money in his pocket. Defendant promised to pay him wages, but he had not received any.

The defendant stated that he arrived in Hongkong in May last year. He came here with a cinematograph company. The first time witness met the plaintiff was in the French Store, Mons. Garmet doing the introduction. They had conversation and defendant learnt that the plaintiff had a cinematograph show in Hongkong. After a while plaintiff agreed to go halves with defendant in his business. Defendant agreed to that, and both went to live together, defendant paying the rent. All this time plaintiff expected to get some money from his wife, but he did not get anything on her arrival as she had lost about \$3,000 in Indo-China. The Hongkong Cinematograph syndicate was opened on the 31st of December last. The house was erected by a Chinaman, and he was to get 2% of the takings; the Union Commercial Company was to get 10% for providing the current, and defendant was to receive 40% for supplying the apparatus and films. The defendant then proceeded to explain that as plaintiff some time later had nothing to do he lent him a cinematograph machine, and he left for Canton. He returned some time later and presented defendant with a bill claiming \$1,000, but defendant had lost the bill. Defendant did not know if plaintiff had lost any money in Canton. The machine was only lent to the plaintiff on charity.

The case was further remanded.

In the Supreme Court, last Thursday afternoon, Mr. Justice Gompertz gave judgment for the defendant in the case in which Charles Nugent sued Auguste Daufresne, claiming \$1,000, balance due on money paid for and on behalf of the defendant. Mr. O. D. Thomson appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Otto Kong Sing represented the defendant.

ALLEGED FALSE PRETENCES.

SERIOUS CHARGE AGAINST A EUROPEAN.

At the Magistracy last Wednesday afternoon, before Mr. J. R. Wood, the second hearing of the case in which H. S. Holmes, a European merchant, is charged with alleged defrauding by false pretences one Cheung Chin Leung of \$3,000, was heard.

Mr. C. F. Dixon appeared for the prosecution, while Mr. G. K. Holmes, solicitor, represented his brother.

Mr. G. F. Dixon opened the case for the prosecution by calling Sit Leung Kit, a trader, to give evidence.

Have you ever spoken in Chinese to the defendant?—No.

Has defendant ever spoken in Chinese to you?—No.

Have you ever heard him speak in Chinese to anybody else?—Once or twice, and then only one or two phrases.

Cheung Chin Leung, the plaintiff, was next called.

Where do you carry on your business?—At 24, Connaught Road West.

You came to Hongkong towards the end of last year for certain business?—Yes.

When did you first hear from defendant?—Somewhere about the middle of May.

Who mentioned his name to you?—Lun Cheong first spoke about him to me.

Did you have an interview with the defendant?—Yes.

What did he tell you?—A few days after I received information, three of us went to Mr. Holmes' office.

Where was his office?—Next to that of Mr. G. K. Holmes, solicitor.

You mean No. 56, Queen's Road Central?—I don't know.

On the occasion of your interview with defendant, who spoke first?—Yung Chik Sun spoke first.

To whom?—To the defendant.

Did Mr. Holmes answer him?—Yes.

Also in English?—Yes.

What took place after that?—Defendant said he wanted to engage a compradore for export and import business.

In English?—No. Yung Chik Sun acted as interpreter.

What did he say to you?—That he wanted \$10,000 security—\$5,000 in cash and \$5,000 in deeds.

What did you say?—I replied if he was going to do that business, I would take up the compradore ship.

Did he say anything about any other kind of business?—No.

Did you say you could find the security he required?—I said I would produce the money and the man surnamed Yung would produce the deeds.

Did you say you would produce the deeds?—No.

Did anything more take place at that interview?—No.

When?—Two or three days after the first.

Where?—At the same place.

Who were present at the second interview?—The same people.

Was the defendant there?—Yes. There were three in all, including myself.

Altogether four, or three?—Three.

What took place?—We went there the second time with the object of ascertaining whether defendant was going to start export and import business, and, in case he really intended it, I would take up the compradore ship.

What next?—Defendant stated that he had obtained a contract in connection with the Kowloon-Canton Railway.

Did he say what the nature of the contract was?—It was a tunnel?—No, the making of the roads.

What did you say?—If there was going to be business, I wouldn't mind taking up the compradore ship.

Was there anything said as to the extent of the business?—He said that, in future, there would be \$10,000 worth of business.

Did anything more take place?—Nothing more.

With reference to the Kowloon-Canton Railway, did he say that he was about to obtain a contract or had already got it?—He said he had already received the contract.

A contract to do what?—To engage labour.

That was the end of the interview?—Yes.

Did a third interview take place?—Yes.

When?—Also after an interval of two or three days.

Were the same people present?—Yes.

At the same place?—Yes.

What took place?—I asked whether it was true or not that defendant was going to carry on the two kinds of business mentioned before, and if it was positively so, I would take up compradore ship.

Did Yung act as interpreter?—Yes.

What did he say?—That it was true.

Did you agree to take up the compradore ship?—I was willing.

Why?—Feeling that there would be two lines of business, i.e. import and export business, and the Kowloon-Canton Railway contract.

When did you cease to attend?—About a month after, when I went into the country.

How long did you stay there?—For ten days.

When you came back, you resumed your duties at the office?—Yes.

Did you go to the country a second time?—Yes.

How long did you stay there this time?—For about eight or ten days.

Did you resume your duties for the second time?—Yes.

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP CO., LD.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The ordinary general meeting of shareholders in the Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd., was held at the Company's office, at noon last Saturday, for the purpose of receiving the report of the general managers, together with a statement of accounts to the 30th June, 1908. Mr. H. P. White occupied the chair. There were present:—The Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson, Messrs. J. W. C. Bonnar, R. Shaw (consulting committee), T. F. Hough, Chang Kang Yee, and J. E. Gomez (secretary).

The Secretary having read the notice convening the meeting, the Chairman said:—Gentlemen,—The report and accounts having been in your hands for some days, I propose with your permission to take them as read. It is to be regretted that we are not able to present a more favourable balance sheet, but as most of you are fully aware the past year has been one of the worst, if not the worst, that shipping generally has ever experienced. When I addressed you at our last general meeting you prospects for the year just passed were not by any means optimistic, and the results of the working of the Company for the first half of the period under review held out hopes of a fair return on the year's working. Unfortunately, these hopes were not realized, for after the Chinese New Year to the end of our financial year in June, a period which we generally look to as the most lucrative, there was a very great falling off in the demand for tonnage to the ports at which the Company's steamers call, and when I mention that during this half year alone the receipts were less than those of the corresponding period last year, and \$60,000 less for the whole year, you will recognize how great the shrinkage in our trade has been. Even with the moderate offerings prevailing the *Haimun* has on many occasions had to shut out cargo, so that shippers are now chary of shipping off to her for fear of their shipments being refused. In the new steamer *Haiyang* we shall have a first-class boat, thoroughly up-to-date in respect of cargo and passenger requirements, which, while having more than double the carrying capacity of the *Haimun*, will cost but little more in running expenses, and we anticipate will prove economical as regards upkeep and docking expenses. During the year the Company has commanded its full share of cargo and passenger traffic and continues to retain the confidence of its constituents and though it is early to forecast the future, I am glad to be able to say that there has been a slight improvement in our particular trade during the last two months, which it is sincerely hoped will continue, for though shipping is having a severe setback it seems not unreasonable to anticipate that it will in time resume its normal condition. Trade recovery and general confidence is restored, though one can hardly look for the big dividend bearing years of former days in shipping, with the keen competition that now exists. Gentlemen, I do not think there is anything more that I can add, and before proposing the adoption of the report and accounts I shall be pleased to answer any questions to the best of my ability.

No questions were asked.

Mr. T. F. Hough seconded the adoption of the report and accounts.

The motion was carried unanimously.

The Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson and Mr. J. W. C. Bonnar were appointed members of the Consulting Committee.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Chang Kang Yee, Messrs. A. R. Lowe and W. H. Potts were re-elected auditors.

The Chairman—Dividend warrants will be ready on Monday. Thank you for your attendance, gentlemen.

YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK.

BARON TAKAHASHI ON THE COMMERCIAL DEPRESSION.

The half-yearly general meeting of the Yokohama Specie Bank was held at the Bank's office on the 10th inst., when Baron Takahashi, President of the Bank, delivered a speech to the following effect:—The foreign trade of the Empire during the first half of the year showed some decrease both in exports and imports as compared with the same period last year. The amount of exports was \$1,000,000 less than last year, and the amount of imports was \$2,000,000 less than last year. It goes without saying that this was a result of the business depression in this country. As is well known, the price of copper suddenly fell last autumn, bringing about a financial panic in America, and this immediately affected the financial conditions in Europe. The exports of Japanese raw silk and habutae were also largely affected. At the commencement of this year the prices of the staples fell steadily, causing great anxiety, and the situation was made worse by the financial depression caused in China and India by famines in various parts of those countries. The fall of silver and copper also greatly weakened the buying power of the Chinese, with the result that the export of cotton yarn and other merchandise to China greatly decreased. In consequence of these circumstances, the development of Japanese industries was greatly hindered, the share market being specially affected. In short, it is not too much to say that a world wide financial depression pressed from last autumn to the commencement of the half-year. These conditions necessarily imposed caution on bankers in Japan, while there was delay in the receipt of cash from abroad, with the consequence that the Empire suffered from a shortage of funds. Ordinarily, banks find it advisable to adopt a particularly prudent attitude in the first half of every year, but this year our bank used its money as much as possible in buying foreign bills. For this reason the revenue from interest and discount showed an increase in the first half as compared with the corresponding period of last year. It is necessary to recall that several failures occurred among Japanese and foreign merchants at Yokohama and Kobe, which greatly affected the Japanese and foreign Banks. This bank, unfortunately, did not escape, as it lost \$500,000 at Kobe, and had to wait for the repayment of \$500,000 advances at Yokohama. Such being the case, it was very much feared at one time that the net profit of the half-year would be greatly smaller than in the first half of the previous year. Owing, however, to the great effort made by the managers and other officials, it has been possible to declare a dividend which is not much smaller than that for the same period in 1907, a result which the shareholders should consider satisfactory. The following accounts were subsequently adopted:

Net Profit, including ¥4,001,552 brought forward from the previous half-year..... ¥3,053,505
Placed to Reserve..... 50,000
Dividend at the rate of ¥6 per share, 1,440,000 shares..... 8,640,000
Carried forward..... 1,113,505

THE Chinese Engineering and Mining Co., Ltd., announces that the total output of the Company's three mines for the week ending September 5 amounted to 25,000 tons and the sales during the period to 10,000 tons.

THE INTERPORT CRICKET MATCH.

The Interport Match originally intended to take place at the beginning of October has now been postponed for a fortnight, and the Hongkong cricketers will not now leave this port before the 15th prox. The team will in all probability be picked after next Saturday's match; so far the following are almost certain to be selected:—R. Hancock, W. C. D. Turner, A. E. Lanning, H. R. Makin, Bandman Barton, 3rd Middlesex Regt., Corporal Sharpe, 3rd Middlesex Regt., Lieut. Home, 3rd Middlesex Regt., R. O. Hutchison and Captain Besley, R.

Two new army officers will in all probability complete the eleven, viz. Lieuts. Harton and Hooper. Although the latter knocked off 40 last week, his display was not particularly impressive.

If Lanning is unable to get away, Claxton will probably take his place as wicket keeper. His play on Saturday afternoon was very good, especially his bowling.

R. O. Hutchison deserves his place on account of his batting and bowling.

Fowler and Edwards stand a chance. Both are hitters and very fair fields although Edwards' throwing in leaves much to be desired.

Captain Besley in any case is going to play tennis and may be also included in the cricket team.

E. B. Reed and Manderson are possible change bowlers.

It is understood that, owing to the exigencies of service, leave could not be obtained by the Eastern Telegraph Company staff to proceed to Shanghai, and therefore, E. W. Day, Peake and Shields, will not be among the chosen ones. Peake and Shields are bowlers, and the Hongkong team is weak in bowling.

As a batsman is pretty useful.

R. E. O. Bird—probably the Club's most useful bowler on a soft wicket—is unable to get away.

The Selection Committee of the Shanghai Club has chosen twenty members of the Cricket Club and six of the Recreation Club as "possibles" for the Interport match against Hongkong and to practice at the specially reserved nets on the Cricket Club's ground. Those selected are:—R. N. Anderson, Capt. E. L. M. Barrett, G. M. Billings, D. Brand, A. G. H. Carruthers, G. A. Chadwick, H. R. S. Cooper, Capt. W. H. Dept, D. E. Donnelly, G. H. Gowing, P. Lamb, V. H. Lanning, R. J. Martie, H. Middleton, W. H. Moule, W. Rodolph, N. L. Sparke, W. K. Stanion, A. R. Vincent, L. Walker and A. F. Wheen. The Recreation Club's possibles are:—T. Main, H. B. Ollerdesen, A. F. Ollerdesen, T. Wallace, S. M. Wallace and O. D. Rasmussen.

SECRET SOCIETIES IN CHINA.

REVOLUTIONARY AND SUPERSTITIOUS.

The New China is honeycombed with secret societies; and those who dare not speak of reform openly, or oppose directly the bad government of the mandarins, do so in the lodge or gather the members of their clubs, and devise means to break down the barriers which may lead to social and political progress. Some of them are merely benefit clubs, making provision for the support of the poor members or the decent burial of the deceased, declare Mr. Jean Rodés in the *Temple* (Paris). Others wish to cultivate European or Japanese customs. Thus various clubs and their aims are described in the following terms:—

"The Society for Communiting Property" aims at the modernisation of China. Its rules include abstinence from opium. Its bylaws forbid the mutilation of women's feet and the adoration of spirits, etc. Its headquarters are at Canton and in the same city is a society which calls itself the 'Friends of the Nation', whose members pledge themselves to buy no imported foreign goods. In Yunnan is a society called 'Total Death', which, in face of the Government's weakness, has as its object the expulsion of the French from the territories they have usurped, and the repurchase of railway and its extension. In Shanai is a secret confederation which opposes the exploitation of Chinese mines by the English. In Sze-chuen the secret societies supply themselves every year with a large number of Chinese and Chinese and making plans to raise the funds wherewith to recover the railroads now in foreign hands."

Of revolutionary clubs Mr. Rodés speaks with some contempt. They dream, like the Russians, but do not act.

"The Triads" and the 'Two Brothers' have members scattered throughout Southern and Central China. The two associations have amalgamated under one leader, Sun Yat Sen, with a view to bringing about the triumph of the *Revolutionary* party, but this party is not a party of absolute unity, but of coherence and initiative. This inertia largely results from the interior mechanism of these institutions. In the lodges, which, with the passion for multiplying names so universal in China, have each a special name; the chief alone is in perfect communication with the directors and knows what their object is. The mass of the initiated remain in total ignorance of this object. Many of them actually are unaware that they are branches of such and such a greater organisation. They move as if blindfolded. And this is natural. It is impossible to make people sacrifice their lives except by rousing their passions or hypnotising them by an idea over which their minds have long brooded."

The societies in Northern China are of a different kind: They take strange names and practice strange or horrible rites like the ancient Galls or priests of Cybele in North-West Asia Minor. Mr. Rodés thus describes the 'Big Knives', the 'Little Knives', the 'Old Lanterns', the 'Old Brethren', the 'Water Lilies'."

"The members of these clubs all have the same rule: They neither drink fermented liquors nor smoke. They are half-vegetarians, but they practise every exercise that will increase their vigour. They employ rites of incantation, and believe that certain substances will render them invulnerable. This group of clubs originated at Chanton, where the population are particularly warlike and members are scattered over an area that reaches to the Yangtze River."

At their annual meeting abandon themselves to all sorts of excesses. They comprise the nobles, merchants, and farmers of the region. It was out of their reunion in 1900 that the Boxers were organized."

In answer to the question whether these societies of New China will ever break out into open action this writer remarks:—

"Their want of training, of leadership, may perhaps some day be supplied in a crisis of affairs particularly favourable to their objects, such as the death of the Empress, or a general insurrection provoked by universal destitution. It is, however, to be feared that this eventuality will not result in benefiting the ignorant masses, which it is to be feared that only the old Boxers will be able to lead."

THE Ministry of Education has obtained permission from the Empress Dowager to expend Tls. 2,000,000 in establishing a first-class university in Peking, which will contain the following eight schools: literature; law; science; foreign languages; agriculture; medicine; commerce; engineering.

It is probable that the College of Agriculture will be established in some suitable place outside the capital where practical demonstration may be had. The idea of H. E. Chang Chit-tung, Comptroller-General of the Ministry of Education, is to enable Chinese students who have already gained a partial education in any of the before-mentioned subjects to complete their studies in China without going to foreign countries. The premises of the proposed university will be built in foreign style and high salaries will be paid for competent and experienced teachers. Large tracts of Government land have been laid aside by the Chinese Government for the purpose, and building will be begun before the end of this year, so that the university may be opened in 1910.—N. G. D. News.

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THE ANTI-OPIMUM CAMPAIGN.

Three months ago Taotai Wang Chia-tang, Director-in-Chief of Telegraphs, was directed by the Ministry of Posts and Communications to find out whether any of his subordinates throughout the whole Telegraph Administration were victims of the opium habit and if so, to give such persons three months to get rid of it. This period has now expired and yesterday a telegraphic dispatch arrived from Peking asking whether the aforesaid victims had got rid of their habit. The penalty of failure to do so, the *N. C. D. News* understands, is summary dismissal. We also learn that the Imperial Commissioners of opium prohibition in Peking have two officials to make secret investigations, one in Shanai, and the other in the Yangtze provinces, as to the extent to which the anti-opium campaign has been carried out by the authorities of those provinces.

H. E. Sang Shou, a Xuy of the Misché, has forwarded a plea to the Throne on behalf of a number of opium-smoking officials within his jurisdiction who have not been able to get rid of the habit during the three months granted by Imperial Edict, on the ground that the limit of time is too short. According to the Imperial Edict in question upon the expiration of the three months' limit, any official found to be still indulging in the habit of opium smoking, the Viceroy, or Governor, having jurisdiction over such an official must denounce the delinquent to the Throne and ask that he be cashiered. Viceroy Sang Shou, therefore, begs Their Majesties to allow him to delay sending up his denunciatory memorial on the subject so as to give his subordinates one more chance to reform. In reply we learn that an Imperial Rescript was issued commanding the Viceroy to observe the regulations of the Imperial Commissioners of Opium Prohibition which are drastic and to the point.—N. G. D. News.

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Important Arms Case.

GERMAN OFFICER PROSECUTED.

DEFENDANT CONVICTED.

22nd inst.

In the Police Court, this morning, before Mr. J. H. Kemp, the case in which Mr. Rudolf Behrmann, second officer of the German steamer *Ambria*, was charged with illegal possession of a quantity of firearms, consisting of five sporting rifles and four revolvers, was resumed after being remanded yesterday.

Mr. E. Davies, for the prosecution, and Mr. Hastings, appeared on behalf of the defendant. The defendant was the first person to be examined.

—Are you the second officer of the s.s. *Ambria*?—Yes.

Are you the owner of these firearms?—Yes. You had them in your cabin on board the *Ambria*—I had them in my cabin.

Has it been your habit to have arms with you?—Yes.

For what reason did you have so many on board?—I expected to require them for sporting purposes.

How long have you been in the habit of carrying arms?—Since two years ago, when I became the second officer of the s.s. *Ambria*.

I believe you were always fond of keeping guns of different sorts?—Yes.

When you were at home, you used to visit gunsmiths' shops, and if you fancied any new guns, you would purchase them?—Yes.

Do you generally have plenty of sport on board?—Yes.

What do you use the revolvers for?—For target practice. Two have not been used. The remainder have been used by the captain, doctor and myself.

What was your idea of getting the ones not used?—In order to practice.

Do you practise on the target on board the ship itself?—Yes.

Is that the target Detective-Sergeant Terrett saw?—Yes.

Did you know a permit was required to have firearms in your possession in this harbour?—No.

Did you know you were not allowed to sell firearms in this Colony?—I knew that.

Has anyone ever asked you to sell firearms here?—I have been asked to sell, but I never actually sold. Very often persons inquired of me the price of the arms.

Can you account for Sergeant Terrett's statement that papers were found that had evidently been used as wrappers for the firearms?—They were used for wrapping up the double-barrelled guns.

Did you attempt to conceal the firearms in any way?—No. They were lying in more than one place in my cabin in an open condition.

How many of them were there in the cabin when the Police saw them on the previous occasion?—Five—four guns and one pistol.

Nothing was mentioned to you on that occasion about their possession being illegal?—Nothing at all.

Are you an officer of the German Navy Reserve?—Yes, I am.

What is your duty as one?—Every two years, I have to serve for about eight weeks in active duty.

Do the regulations require you to have a revolver always?—I don't know.

Here, Detective-Sergeant Terrett asked if the arms produced in Court were the only ones witness brought to the Colony this time. Defendant's reply was in the affirmative.

What about a Browning pistol found in your cabin?—Ah, yes, I have one.

When the Police searched your cabin, they searched it pretty thoroughly?—Yes.

Where was the Browning pistol lying?—On a shelf.

Mr. Kemp at this juncture drew defendant's attention to the fact that it was rather extraordinary that the pistol was not found if it was lying on a shelf. Defendant concurred with His Worship.

Edwin Deina, master of the s.s. *Ambria*, was next called.

Do you recognise these firearms?—I do.

They are the property of the second officer of your ship?—Yes.

What use did he make of them on board the *Ambria*?—Target practice.

Did you know Mr. Behrmann had these arms on board?—Everybody who passed his cabin could plainly see them.

Did he sell any so far as you are aware?—No.

Have you any idea why he kept these arms?—None beyond the fact that the defendant is a German Navy Reserve officer and his former connection with life in a forest.

After further evidence had been taken from the 3rd officer, Mr. Davidson submitted that the purpose of the firearms in defendant's possession was quite an innocent one, and, therefore, the Court ought to impose a nominal fine.

Mr. Kemp found the defendant guilty of a substantial offence. He fined defendant \$100 or the alternative of three months' imprisonment. His Worship directed the firearms to be forfeited.

PASSENGER BOAT OVER-TURNED.

FOUR LIVES LOST NEAR HONGKONG.

19th inst.

A passenger boat trading between Shantou and Kaito, which was on the south-east end of Ap Chau Island yesterday morning, in all four persons were drowned.

Ap Chau is an island a few hours' sail from Hongkong, and is situated between the two places already mentioned.

Between eight and nine o'clock yesterday morning a number of persons who had gone to Shantou to sell their produce started to return to Kaito in a passenger boat. There were on board about five men, the same number of women, and a cargo of vegetables which had been left over. Sails were set and had long after the boat was under way. All went well until she got abreast of Ap Chau Island when a sudden gust of wind caught the boat and capsized her. Passengers and crew were thrown into the sea and at that time of the morning a strong current was running. Everybody managed to save themselves by clinging on to the upturned craft, except four women, who were drowned.

A passing fishing boat rescued the others and towed the submerged boat back to Shantou, where she was beached. Later in the day the body of one woman was found drifting with the tide, and picked up. There were no signs of the others up to last night.

RAUB CRUSHING.

The following is the result of work at Raub for the four weeks ending 18th inst.:

Bukit Koman—Stones crushed 3,800 tons; Gold obtained 869 ounces; Average per ton, 4.53 dwts.

Bukit Malacca—Stones crushed 2,446 tons; Gold obtained 833 ounces; Average per ton, 4 dwts.

ALLEGED PERJURY.

CHINESE WOMAN IN TROUBLE.

The Criminal Sessions resumed last Monday morning—the Police Judge, Mr. Justice Gompertz, on the bench. The first case on the calendar was that in which an aged woman, named Lam Kio, was called upon to answer a charge of false declaration in the Supreme Court on the 16th of May last.

When arraigned before the Court, to-day she pleaded not guilty. A jury accordingly was empanelled.

The jury was as follows:—Messrs. P. R. Wolff, R. Laurens, F. S. Allen, G. A. Caldwell, R. C. Walker, A. E. Asger and D. W. Towns.

The Attorney-General, Mr. W. Rees Davies, in presenting the case to the jury, and to the effect that on the day in question the defendant, a woman who alleged that his name was Lai Loi, made an application for administration in connection with certain property at Shan-ki-wan, which stood in the name of one Lai Mao. Defendant, in her declaration, alleged that the supposed Lai Loi was Lai Mao, who as a matter of fact, was away in the interior and knew nothing of the transaction until recently. The real Lai Loi was a Hak-ka, a native of Kwai-shan, and he came to Hongkong some twenty-four years ago. He went to live at Shan-ki-wan. After about two years he built a house and lived in it for about ten years.

There was a Crown lease which Lai Loi took out in 1894. He died the following year, leaving a widow, who was not aware that administration papers were necessary. However that may be, a few months later the widow gave the deeds to the real Lai Loi, and he handed them to the defendant to keep. At that time she was a tenant of the widow's house, paying for her rent and one dollar a month for her cubicle. Soon after she had taken possession of the deeds she began conspiring with this alleged Lai Loi, to impersonate him, and to apply for administration. The widow knew nothing of this until proceedings were taken by defendant in the Police Court to have her ejected from her own house. Of course, the case was dismissed, and the arrest of the defendant followed soon after. He explained to the jury the law on the subject and evidence was called.

The jury returned a verdict of not guilty, and the prisoner was discharged.

ALLEGED PIRACY.

FOUR SUSPECTS ON TRIAL AT THE CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

The Criminal Sessions was continued last Tuesday morning, Mr. Justice Gompertz presiding. The second case on the calendar was that in which four men, supposed fishermen, were charged (1) with committing armed robbery within the waters of the Colony, and (2) living in possession of stolen property.

Mr. W. Rees Davies, Attorney-General, with whom was Mr. R. Deane, of the Crown Solicitor's office, prosecuted. The accused, who were undenied, pleaded not guilty to the charges.

The jury empanelled were:—Messrs. J. H. Underwood, A. McDougall, A. W. Wardington, A. de Paulo Colloco, S. T. Neville, O. D. Harrington and S. Musso. Mr. Underwood was elected foreman.

It was stated by the Attorney-General that the case was one of piracy, which was perpetrated near Tai Loong Village in the waters of the Colony on August 31st last. A junk, he stated, belonging to a man named Li Ng, left Hongkong some days previously for Ping Hoi.

There was a crew of five men aboard, and the junk carried a cargo of flour and other goods. About nine o'clock on the night in question when the junk had arrived at the entrance to Tai Loong Bay a boat put off from the shore, and the crew could hear the voices of men calling upon them to stop. This was followed by the report of a gun. The master and the crew fled to the hold, where they concealed themselves. The boat came alongside; the pirates boarded her, and the marauders proceeded to possess themselves of all there was on board. From the stern of the junk they took away a quantity of clothing. Two of the crew were stripped of their clothing and they were relieved of all the money they had on them. The foreman remarked, but what there was \$57 they took. After a while they searched the hold and transferred to their boat a quantity of flour and kerosene. The pirates next took charge of the junk, and with their own craft alongside, made for Tai Loong harbour and beached her. In order to protect themselves they cut the sails of the junk, and decamped. Next day the owner of the junk set sail for Ling Chung Wan and on arrival there they gave information to the police.

The question now, the Attorney-General said, was one of identification. Two of the accused had been identified as being the men. If the jury were not satisfied that all of them took part in the robbery, then they must say if one or the other or both of the identified men were guilty. The fourth accused had been identified by reason of the fact that he went down into the hold to give the master some congee. He played the part of the good Samaritan and as a result he was identified by the crew, whom he also took part in stripping. The second and fourth accused were later identified as being the men who were picked out from a gang of stolen property had been found in their possession. The accused were all arrested in a meshed at Tytam-tuk. Under a bed in the shed the police found a number of ties of kerosene oil, on the bed was a quantity of clothing, and somewhere else in the room were several sacks of flour, all of which bore special marks by which they could be recognised. The other two men—Nos. 1 and 3—were not identified, but as they were found in possession of some of the stolen property the jury quired that they give a reasonable account of how they came into possession of it. Unless they could do that they were equally guilty.

Evidence was then called.

The first and third accused were sentenced to three years' hard labour each; on a verdict of 6-1. The second and fourth accused were each found guilty unanimously and a sentence of five years' hard labour was passed.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

STEAM SERVICE TO SOUTH AMERICA.

It is reported that the Nippon Yusen Kaisha is expanding a large sum in investigating the prospect of a steam service to South America, the opening of which is under consideration.

Mr. Kametani, an official of the company, is now in Peru investigating the scheme. Mr. Uchida, Director of the Marine Bureau in the Department of Communications, who is now travelling in Europe, will also make a visit to Peru. A scheme is under consideration between the Governments of Chile and Argentina and the Nippon Yusen Kaisha to open a regular service between Japan and South America, with a subsidy granted by the two countries.

Method—*Open Channel*.

RAUB GOLDMINE.

A VISIT TO THE PROPERTY.

From Raub, a well-made road leading to the northward leads through a pleasant valley which broadens after about one and a half miles into an open tract of country surrounded by jungle-covered hills; and here is Raub Gold Mine. But the customary ugliness of a mine is missing, writes a special commissioner of the *Malay Mail*. No huge dumps disfigure the landscape. From the road, as one approaches, the tallings are out of sight. Here and there a small mill, going up a large vat (these are five of them at Raub) containing cyanide in solution. Here the fluid is "agitated" by gigantic stirrers. From the vats, the cyanide passes through a series of extractor boxes containing zinc shavings which collect all the gold in the solution (technically the gold is said to be "precipitated" upon the shavings). The cyanide in solution, after leaving the extractor boxes, runs into two enormous vats called "sumps" where it receives any additional necessary reagents to the required strength, and whence it is pumped up to the vats above and used over and over again. Meanwhile the zinc shavings are treated with acid and then at last are ready for smelting.

This is the process of treating all the quartz brought to the surface at Raub, excepting that the ore from one of the crushers, instead of passing under the stamps, is pounded in a large revolving mill something like a churn called a "Huntingdon mill."

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All the power requisite to drive the complicated machinery we have attempted to describe, as well as the 45 horse-power Cornish pump and 70 horse-power hoisting engine at Bukit Koman, is provided by electricity, which also works the machinery in the large separating shop near the crushing mill, where all but very exceptional injuries to the plant are made good. The electricity is generated by water and conveyed along wires a distance of nine miles to the mine itself. It speaks well for the progressive policy pursued at Raub that the installation dates from nine years back, and the excellence of the plant is testified to by the fact that breakdowns seldom occur, and serious breakdowns never, and this though one of the generators is similar in size to, though of less capacity than, one of those which convey from Ulu Gombak to Kuala Lumpur to variegated a supply of electric current. Of course all the light required above ground at Raub is electric; underground, candles are used. Although electricity is the chief motive power, there is a certain amount of steam, as for instance, the temporary pumping engine at Anderson shaft and the locomotives on the light railway.

LABOUR.

The superintendence of the mine is entirely in the hands of Europeans of whom there are thirteen, including the Manager. Each man is in charge of a certain section of the mines or plant, and for his section he is always responsible day and night, for work at Raub never ceases. The stamps run continuously from year to year, if we except the pauses of a few minutes necessary in each individual battery while the amalgam is being collected, while below ground the work of excavation always continues. The labourers work in three shifts of eight hours each. The underground work is done entirely by Chinese, and all work is given out on the contract system. Above ground the labour is Chinese, Malay and Tamil. The drivers of the locomotives on the railway, and of any steam engines which happen to be in use, are Malays, the labour required in connection with the electric plant being given to Tamils. Altogether there are 850 men employed on the mine.

When our representative paid a visit to the mine a short time ago he descended, not Bukit Koman, which most visitors see, but the comparatively new Slope mine shaft which already produces the largest amount of gold and which leads to workings in the same lode as that to be approached from Anderson shaft, which latter will become in time the principal shaft in the mine. Down at the 160 ft. level in Slope mine the lode is perfectly obvious, even to the uninitiated lay observer, for it is entirely different in colour and general appearance from the dark rock in which it is found on either side. Also it gleams and glistens with thousands of minute fragments of pyrites which, sparkling in the flickering candle-light, make its appearance quite picturesque. The disadvantage of Slope mine from a spectator's point of view is that it is a good deal wetter than Bukit Koman and what with dripping from above and splashing from below, no one who has been in it long can emerge very dry. It is surprising, however, to notice how cool the atmosphere is, for one cannot see the air to be unobtrusively stuffy. Bukit Koman is, we believe, a good deal warmer; in fact from the mouth of its shaft a mist caused by heat continually rises.

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The trucks are drawn to the top of the slope on which the mill stands and there they are tipped, the rock they contain being shot on to screens which allow the small pieces to fall through, the pieces too large to pass being the screens being picked up by hand and flung into the crushers. These have a likeness to the mouths of monstrous animals, and there is something animal-like in the ease with which they clamp the solid rock into tiny pieces in the space of a few seconds, and then go on mouthing their fearful jaws as though eager to deal with the next piece thrown to them. Here the noise is terrific, but when one descends to the next floor, where the stamps are at work, it becomes literally deafening. The loudest shout is inaudible and all orders are given by signs.

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Until recently, the still sandy water which flowed away from the copper tables was lost as at all times, but now, by means of a long

chemical process, much gold, which previously went to waste, is won from it. The tallings are now run over a succession of four inclined troughs called Wilfley tables where iron and other sulphides are extracted. From the Wilfley tables the water runs off as tallings, leaving a deposit behind known as concentrate. These are taken away, and having passed through a small mill, go into a large vat (these are five of them at Raub) containing cyanide in solution. Here the fluid is "agitated" by gigantic stirrers. From the vats, the cyanide passes through a series of extractor boxes containing zinc shavings which collect all the gold in the solution (technically the gold is said to be "precipitated" upon the shavings). The cyanide in solution, after leaving the extractor boxes, runs into two enormous vats called "sumps" where it receives any additional necessary reagents to the required strength, and whence it is pumped up to the vats above and used over and over again. Meanwhile the zinc shavings are treated with acid and then at last are ready for smelting.

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LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held in the Council Chamber last Thursday. Present: His Excellency the Governor, Sir Frederick Lugard, K.C.M.G., Colonel Darling, R.E., commanding the Forces in South China; Hon. Mr. E. H. May, C.M.G., (Colonial Secretary), Hon. Mr. W. Rees Davies (Attorney General), Hon. Mr. A. M. Thomson (Colonial Treasurer), Hon. Mr. W. Chubbam, C.M.G., (Director of Public Works), the Hon. Mr. F. J. Badesley, (Captain Superintendent of Police), Hon. Mr. E. A. Irving (Registrar General), Hon. Mr. H. K. A. W. Gresson, Hon. Mr. Murray Stewart, Hon. Mr. H. A. W. Slade, and Mr. C. Clement (Clerk of Council).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

PAPERS.

The Colonial Secretary, by command of the Governor, laid on the table the following sessional papers:—

Report on the Assessment for the year 1908-1909.

Abstract showing differences between the estimates of expenditure for 1908 and 1909.

Financial statements in connection with the Estimates for 1909.

Report on the Typhoons of 27th-28th July, 1908.

Report of the Director of Public Works for the year 1907.

FINANCE.

The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the report of the Finance Committee (No. 15).

FINANCIAL MINUTES.

The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the Financial Minutes No. 16. It was agreed that they be referred to the Finance Committee.

THE OPIUM QUESTION.

The Hon. Mr. Murray Stewart.—I rise to move that—In the opinion of this Council the reasons given to the House of Commons on the 28th July by the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, in explanation of the peremptory nature of the order issued to your Excellency on the 6th May, are unsatisfactory.

The reasons referred to were given in the debate on the Colonial Office vote. The full report of that debate, received here during the recess, has no doubt been read with interest by every member of this Council, and some of us, indeed most residents, must have felt grateful to Mr. Lytton for having realized so clearly the point of our original protest and for having represented it so effectively. His reference to the Colony was in these terms (I quote from *The Times*):—"In carrying out the resolution of the House for the discontinuance of the opium traffic, it was presumed by every one who took part in the debate that any action taken by the Government would be deliberate and cautious, and in particular that they would seek to enlist the co-operation of the authorities of the various Colonies concerned. Unless he was misinformed there had been a grievous departure from that wholesome rule in Hongkong. He was informed that a telegram was sent by the Secretary of State on May 6th saying to the Colony of Hongkong that His Majesty's Government had decided to close the opium establishment in Hongkong. That telegram reached Hongkong three hours before the statement was made public in the House of Commons, and therefore any information was furnished to the Colony before the statement was made public."

"Absolutely no previous consultation had taken place, so far as he was informed, and no opinion taken of the members of the Legislative Council. He hoped there would be some explanation given of this apparently high-handed proceeding."

The explanation offered by the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies was as follows:—"With reference to the complaint that we took action without consulting the authorities of Hongkong, although they did their best to ascertain the views of the people, it was quite impossible to get anything like a reasoned opinion from the inhabitants of Hongkong."

Sir, I think it is not to be wondered at if Hongkong inhabitants find that a hard saying. The impression which it is calculated to create upon the mind of any reader is obviously an unfavourable impression. The words suggest that the inhabitants are impossible people to deal with. No one could take it as a compliment. Anyone might take it as a slight. At the very least, it is open to misconception. It is not even clear who did their best? His Majesty's Ministers or the Hongkong Authorities? There is room for just that much ambiguity owing to the speech being reported in the third person. But this ambiguity does not really signify, for His Majesty's Ministers would naturally seek to ascertain the views of the people through the Hongkong Authorities. When and how did His Majesty's Ministers thus do their best? The telegram which they caused to be sent on the 6th May contained no reference to the views of the people. It merely notified you, Sir, of an impending announcement. Apart from that, the explanation is required to cover an antecedent period. It is the period pertinent to the question, if ever did the Home authorities approach the Hongkong authorities with the object of ascertaining the views of the people? And did the Hongkong authorities inform them that reasoned opinion was non-existent in the Colony? I imagine not. How then did the Under Secretary of State come by this knowledge? He had scarcely been long enough at his duties to have learnt it by experience, and it can hardly be that he derived it from the permanent officials of the Colonial Office, because in that case Mr. Lytton would also have known of our "right state" and would have realised why we were thus treated, which he manifestly did not. However, having unaccountably delivered himself of this statement, the Under Secretary then proceeded to tell Mr. Lytton that his former utterance thus—"I agreed with that policy but what I said was that every person of sense presumed that ordinary steps had been taken that would make the policy palatable." Upon this the Under Secretary said:—"The ordinary steps could not be taken because it was impossible to get a reasoned opinion from the inhabitants of Hongkong. And yet, notwithstanding this, he proceeded to say that the ordinary steps were now being taken."

Apparently the reason given, suddenly ceased to be operative. It is all a little puzzling. First the admission is made that the issue of the order in question, without previously consulting the authorities of Hongkong, was an extraordinary step to take, next he claimed that this extraordinary step was justifiable because it was quite impossible to get anything like a reasoned opinion from the inhabitants; and then, refuge is taken in an assurance that henceforth the action of His Majesty's Ministers will be guided by the advice received from your Excellency. To those of us who have confidence that the advice offered by your Excellency will give due weight to the reasons

of opinion of the inhabitants, it appears that, after all, His Majesty's Ministers will probably be found availing themselves, in some measure, of the very thing that the Under Secretary of State said it was impossible to get. But, Sir, no sooner had he said this than he seemed to relent, for almost in the next breath he claimed on behalf of the Government the support of "the best opinion in Hongkong." The inference is that though a reasoned opinion is impossible to get, the kind obtainable is divisible into degrees of comparison. Of these, that which supports the action of the Government is regarded by the Under Secretary as the best. Naturally! But then the best cannot, on his own showing, be worth anything. This, Sir, is the explanation which I have ventured to describe as unsatisfactory. And when I realise that I have so described it, I am amazed at my own moderation.

Sir, in the House of Commons, owing to the limited time at the disposal of private members, it is the custom to ballot for the privilege of bringing forward resolutions dealing with matters of public interest, and it seems to have just so happened that Mr. Johnson won a place for his opium resolution, precisely as he might have won a doll in a raffish at a bazaar. Up to this time the opium policy of the Government had been conducted with commendable deliberation. Committed to it by the passing of a former resolution in May 1906 they had contested themselves with concluding an arrangement for the reduction of the Indian export, and with instituting inquiries in Ceylon and Singapore as to the best method for discouraging the use of the drug, judging by the fact that they did nothing definite here it was natural to suppose they realised that there was no necessity for drastic measures, inasmuch as the gradual cessation of the Indian trade would, if China kept faith, automatically entail the extinction of the opium habit in this Colony. But when they found themselves suddenly faced with the problem of accepting or opposing a resolution the terms of which conveyed censure of these leisurely methods, they evidently feared to offend the powerful following of the English anti-opium agitators by opposing it, and so deciding to accept it, they became anxious for tactical reasons to create the impression that they were already pursuing an active policy in all directions, and were everywhere leading, instead of being driven into action.

They therefore hurriedly recalled the resolutions of the resolution with regard to Hongkong by despatching the telegram of the 6th May. The message was sent in order that its despatch and terms might be effectively announced in the debate on the opium resolution. As a tactical move it was well calculated. The desired effect was produced. The announcement brought down the House, Cheers greeted the Government scored. From a practical point of view the main object of the opium policy was not advanced one jot. The ordinary steps are now being taken—Despatches, reports, consultations, compromise—but the main object of the telegram was achieved.

As I said, the Government scored. It is reduced to simple narrative form, in I believe, what the reasoned opinion of Hongkong holds to be the history of this "apparently high-handed proceeding." We could not understand it, at the time, because its comparatively harmless nature was obscured in the first instance by the news agencies interpolating the word "forthwith" into the order to close the divans, and because of other obscurities. But that, it now seems clear, is why the ordinary steps were not taken at once.

The explanation given by the Under Secretary is at least fits the facts and by the light of them the reasons given by the Under Secretary are seen to fall to the ground, and to lie, in a confused heap, forming stumbling blocks instead of "ordinary steps" towards making the policy of the Government palatable. I cannot understand a better way of making the policy palatable in this Colony than by offering reflections on our good name in defence of methods due to the immediate needs of Administration, and by the rejection of date. The more we are convinced of this the less, to adopt Sir Henry Blake's expression, shall we kick. Of course, the Under Secretary could not be expected to explain the matter in this way. But surely he ought never to have come within measurable distance of setting up such a clumsy indictment to do duty as an excuse. No doubt, it is open to anyone to contend that you cannot get a reasoned opinion from a large number of people. But I submit that it could only be averred of us in the sense in which it would be true of almost any community. In one sense it would be true of London or Liverpool, Manchester or Glasgow. But I think that no politician would be likely to make a similar remark about the inhabitants of any English, Scotch or Irish town. He would be likely to hear about it if he did. Are we to conclude that because we are so far away our susceptibilities need not be so carefully considered? Does consideration vary with the distance? This would be an unfortunate impression for the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies to create. It might have been expected that he would be careful to avoid making remarks calculated to arouse resentment in even the most distant of the communities with which for a time he is to be officially connected. But perhaps we shall be told that he did not say it; that he said something quite different; that the reporter is to blame. Or, may be, a meaning will be read into the text which will help the Under Secretary out. This has already been done by Editors and writers like most of the rest of us here have found it, as on explanation, applicable. In the meantime, the statement stands in the columns of *The Times* for all men to read, it seems to me that it is the duty of the Unofficial Members of this Council to challenge it, and therefore look to my colleagues to support me in voting for the resolution, which I have designed for that purpose, and which I now move.

His Excellency the Governor, replying, pointed out that Hansard for July for the Imperial Parliament had not yet reached this Colony and there was therefore no record of the actual words used by the Under Secretary. The *Times* report was not an actual record being read in the third person. At the same time he did place on it the construction which had been assumed by Mr. Stewart. The statement that it was impossible to obtain a reasoned opinion from Hongkong appeared to him to mean that it was impossible to obtain it between the time of the accession of the new Secretary of State and the pronouncement in Parliament. He was unaware that any steps had been taken to consult the people of Hongkong on the subject. Perhaps further communications from home would throw light on the position. When he read the Under Secretary of State's reply in the House of Commons he was confident that it was satisfactory. Personally he heartily endorsed the words of the mover of this resolution that the higher the motive which prompted the policy of the Government and the more they were convinced that the motive was based not on the exigencies of party politics but on the conditions of the country the more willing they should co-operate.

Mr. Murray Stewart replied, refusing to withdraw. A vote was taken. All the Unofficial Members voted in favour of the resolution. All the Official voted against. The resolution was lost by 7 votes to 5.

BUILDING AUTHORITY'S PROSECUTIONS. Hon. Mr. Stewart.—In proposing the second resolution which stands in my name I do not intend to say more than a very few words. The facts upon which it comments are common property and it is unnecessary to do more than recapitulate them briefly. Broadly speaking, they may be recapitulated thus. Early in the second half of July a large number of notices were served upon property owners in the name of the Building Authority, calling upon them to execute various repairs.

On the 24th July tremendous rains fell, causing considerable damage, and making a large call upon the reserve labour resources of local contractors. While struggling with the extra work thus entailed the Colony was visited by a severe typhoon, which impressed itself forcibly upon a great number of houses in the town, and left almost every house at the Peak calling loudly, through broken windows and gaping roofs, for immediate repair. That was on the 28th July, as we all have reason to remember. From that time onwards for a month and more it was notoriously impossible to execute repairs with any degree of rapidity and it must have been the experience of everybody whose house or premises stood in need of mending that he had to wait. Nobody liked it because several typhoons were distinctly reported about this time and the prospect of being caught by one was, under the circumstances, distinctly disquieting. But most people took a reasonable view of the position, and realising that every nerve was being strained by the architects and contractors, put their tempers under restraint and exercised the virtue of patience. It was therefore with something like amazement that we read one day in the papers of the issue of a large number of summonses upon property owners for failure to carry out during this very period the former requirements of the Building Authority in the matter of repairs. I have been informed that as many as 99 were issued calling upon property owners to appear at the Police Court on one day, on the 21st August. It is just this kind of inconsiderate proceeding which rouses the ire of the general public and brings the Administration into disrepute.

In particular it naturally arouses the ire of property owners and leads them to regard the Public Health Ordinances with something much stronger than disapproval. When the new Act was passed it was pointed out on all hands and in this Council that its success mainly depended upon the spirit in which its provisions were interpreted and the discretion with which they were applied. In the debate on the Third Reading I had the temerity to express the hope that the powers entrusted to that mysterious abstraction known as the Building Authority would be used with discretion. I understood Your Excellency to assure this Council, and through this Council the community, that it was the Government's desire to avoid unnecessary friction in carrying out the provisions of the new Act, and, Sir, the fact that on the matter being represented to you most of the summonses were promptly withdrawn shows that you agreed with the general sense of the community in thinking that they were unwisely issued. But that such things can happen in spite of the assurances of Your Excellency and apparently without the knowledge and consent of the higher officials of the Government suggests a weak link in the chain of responsibility and with the idea of seeking to remedy this defect, in the only way that lies open to the Unofficial Members of this Council, namely by drawing particular attention to the weak spot.

"The members of this Council regret the recent action of the Building Authority in instituting on a large scale criminal proceedings against property owners for failure to comply with the requirements of the law under circumstances which, in the majority of cases, rendered compliance impracticable. Mr. Slade seconded, holding that the Building Authority should have exercised that discretion which the Ordinance reposed in him. He hoped that some way would be found to see that those directly connected with the administration of the Ordinance would attempt to carry out His Excellency's intentions in future.

The Director of Public Works submitted the following statement, which, he said, was proof for refusing to pass this resolution:—

Any deficiency in the number of summonses taken out as compared with the number of notices not complied with is explained by the fact that, in some cases, work has been done, but not reported in time for the issue of a summons. In others, it was not possible to obtain the address of the owner or agent.

Period which elapsed between date of notice and date of taking out of summons.

Number of summonses taken out.

Number of notices complied with.

Number of notices not complied with.

Number of notices not complied with.

Number of notices not complied with.

Number of notices not complied with.

Number of notices not complied with.

Number of notices not complied with.

Number of notices not complied with.

Number of notices not complied with.

Number of notices not complied with.

Number of notices not complied with.

Number of notices not complied with.

Period which elapsed between date of notice and date of taking out of summons.	Number of summonses taken out.	Number of notices complied with.	Number of notices not complied with.
15-17-08	16	16	0
18-19-08	18	18	0
20-21-08	15	15	0
22-23-08	14	14	0
24-25-08	13	13	0
26-27-08	12	12	0
28-29-08	11	11	0
30-31-08	10	10	0
1-2-09	9	9	0
3-4-09	8	8	0
5-6-09	7	7	0
7-8-09	6	6	0
9-10-09	5	5	0
11-12-09	4	4	0
13-14-09	3	3	0
15-16-09	2	2	0
17-18-09	1	1	0
19-20-09	0	0	0
21-22-09	0	0	0
23-24-09	0	0	0
25-26-09	0	0	0
27-28-09	0	0	0
29-30-09	0	0	0
31-01-10	0	0	0
Total	179	179	0

Mr. Gresson thought that the words of the Director of Public Works afforded ample reason why the resolution should be passed. These notices were issued at an extraordinary time and it seemed to him, as the Director of Public Works himself admitted, that the public of Hongkong was extremely anxious to comply with the regulations. Reference had been made to the fact that the Building Authority was not asked to grant a period of grace. He should say the answer to that was obvious. No such question was put to him because nobody expected summonses to be issued at that particular period.

A vote was taken. As in the case of the former resolution all the Unofficial members voted for the resolution and all the Official against it.

The resolution was lost by 7 votes to 5.

KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY. The Hon. Mr. Murray Stewart asked:—With reference to reports which have appeared in the

local press concerning the alleged unsatisfactory state of some of the stone railway bridges under construction in Kowloon and the New Territory, have the Government any information to impart?

The Colonial Secretary replied that the information in question that the government was willing to impart would be communicated in the Governor's speech on the Estimates.

APPROPRIATION BILL. The Colonial Secretary moved the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to apply a sum not exceeding five millions five hundred and seventy thousand four hundred and twenty-seven dollars to the public service of the year 1909.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded.

GOVERNOR'S BUDGET SPEECH. Addressing this Council on the Colonial Estimates for 1909.

His Excellency said:—Gentlemen,—Before I deal with the Estimates for the coming year I will invite your attention to the financial statement in connection with them, which has been laid upon the table. From this you will see that the balance of assets on December 31, 1907, stood at \$1,544,175, while the estimated balance on the 31st December, 1908, is \$1,611,100, owing to the fact that a debit balance of \$8,100 is anticipated to accrue from the working of the current year. I will first explain how this deficit—which is the excess of the revised estimate of expenditure over the revised estimate of revenue—has arisen. In fact since we anticipated a surplus of \$49,359 our total falling off really amounts to \$630,408. This large sum is in round figures accounted for as follows:—We expected to realise \$152,000 less revenue than we estimated for. There is an increase of \$36,000 in the total of ordinary revenue, but the deficit of \$199,000 in land revenue, and the deficit of \$17,000 in the other hand about \$178,000 more than we estimated for. The chief items are as follows:—Contribution to Flood Relief Fund \$30,000, Typhoon damages excess over estimate exclusive of harbour \$101,000 and inclusive of cost of labour and material due also to floods. (a) Balance of excess over savings Public Works Department \$400. (b) Spend on Typhoon Refuge and Causeway Bay, in excess of estimate \$190,000; excess of expenditure over savings in Public Works \$200,000. The Dredged \$165,000 C.R. Sludge, \$12,000. The gain on exchange, estimated at 2s. and 2s. 10d., \$80,000, which gives a total of \$178,000.

As these are only approximate forecast I do not trouble you with details of the excesses and savings on the various votes, and the public works recurrent and public works extraordinary. The former vary from year to year, sometimes showing a small excess, sometimes a small saving, and cannot be estimated with exactitude. In the case of the latter, every excess on expenditure not estimated for has been fully explained by the Council and a vote taken for the time. The savings on the other hand, affected have not been at the expense of the Law Courts and Post Office, which have been pushed on as far as possible. They amount to \$5,500 of which the postponement of Queen's Statue Pier, and of part of the work of raising Des Voeux Road account for \$10,000 each, and cattle depots for \$1,000, the remaining \$4,000 being on survey marks and filter beds. When the year is completed and the accounts finally made up full information can be given on those matters.

The balance of assets at the close of 1907 stood at \$1,544,175 and the deficit will reduce them to \$1,611,100, and \$66,925, which we anticipate will represent the amounts of our reserves at the end of the current year. You will no doubt observe out of the total sum debited to the reserve, viz., \$81,000, about \$200,000 is on account of the typhoon refuge which in my statement, I said we should have to charge partly against our Reserves. I trust that the remaining quarter of this year may show an improvement in revenue and that this estimated deficit may prove to be an excessive forecast.

I will turn now to the estimate for next year. When introducing the Estimates last year I had to express regret that we shall realise a somewhat larger total than the amount estimated for the current year. I refer of course to ordinary revenue, exclusive of special light dues, widows and orphans fund and land sales. The increase is \$125,806, of which about \$85,000 is accounted for by new sources of revenue or increases in the previous duties act. Nevertheless there is a small increase of \$43,800 and I trust that this increase, however small, may be an augury that we have turned a corner and seen the worst year of the depression. Still I must remind you that our estimated revenue for 1909 is \$388,334 less than the realized ordinary revenue of 1907, itself a year of decline by 27 from the previous year and we are \$568,374 less than 1906 which represents the high water mark of our prosperity. In the decennial period, however, previous to 1906, the gross revenue rose by the amazing figure of 269 per cent.—nearly triple—and we must not therefore regard it as too serious a matter that our estimated revenue for 1909 is less than we have realized, and that we have been speaking of ordinary revenue. When we look at the figures for extraordinary revenue we see the land sales, from which we normally expect to realize about \$300,000, only realize \$159,750 in 1907, and are only estimated at \$110,000 in the current year. I have put the figure for 1909 at \$150,000, for I believe the barometer is pointing better weather and land sales are the index of our financial barometer. There are two other items under the head of estimated revenue for next year, and both merit a special reference. \$35,000 is set down as the product of the extra amount levied on the water supply for the object of constructing the new typhoon refuge. This appropriation to the work with an additional contribution from the Government under public works extraordinary. It represents not merely the product of the extra amount charged on ocean shipping, but also the extra dues levied on day and night entries of river steamers. It is put under estimated revenue, the Secretary of State and H. O. having agreed to exempt it from M. G. There is also a sum of \$412,500 of which \$371,500 represents the invested capital taken over by the Government from the Widows and Orphans Fund, and the \$40,000 represents the contributions during the year. The debate on the Ordinance which transferred this fund to the Government is too recent in your memories to need any detailed reference on this occasion. The sum of money which it places at the disposal of the Government in the capital fund, the interest on which in addition to the annual contributions goes to pay the annual charges for pensions. This sum of \$371,500 is therefore in the nature of a loan; the interest upon it is to be met out of the form of pensions will have to be met out of current revenue. It should therefore theoretically be invested in some remunerative work which would benefit the Colony and at the same time produce a sum equivalent to the interest to meet the new charge upon the revenues. Seeing, however, that we have to meet a deficit this year larger than the capital sum I would only have so treated it by imposing new taxation to the full amount of this capital sum. I believe and trust whose advice I have sought have urged upon me that to impose taxation at this time

meant when we are not yet free from the heavy taxation which has so reduced our revenue would be a mistake. Nor is there adequate reason for supposing that such an increase of taxation would be permanently required. I am prepared therefore to include it in the estimate of available funds to meet next year's liabilities, as was done with the Praya Reclamation Fund, etc., but I feel it my duty to point out to you that it is, as I have said, in the nature of a loan to tide us over our difficulties, the interest upon which we are liable for in the form of pensions in future years. The sum applied to the annual contributions in so far as they exceed the liabilities of the pension list. These contributions aggregate \$30,800 while the pensions and expenses of the fund are estimated in 1909 at \$9,500 and we are, moreover, relieved of the sum of \$18,500, \$300 being the interest payable on exchange, hitherto thrown under miscellaneous service votes. Our total liability therefore amounts to \$41,300. For so long as the pensions are less than the estimated annual liabilities, for so long are we living at the expense of posterity, though then the position is reversed we have to provide the difference to make good the pensions due of our annual revenue. But I confess I do not look for any sympathy with posterity from the taxpayers of the present day who are so apt to be so ready to meet the exigencies of the present depression, but I can find some justification in the reflection that we are to-day paying the full interest on the funds borrowed for railway construction instead of debiting it to capital account as is not usually done. These general considerations are of such paramount importance in considering our yearly Budget that I have not hesitated to occupy some time in discussing them.

I turn now to the Estimate of Revenue under its various heads. I do not propose to go into great detail in the matter, for the printed estimates, with their fully explanatory notes and appendices speak for themselves and are designed to give the fullest possible information of every increase and decrease, both in revenue and expenditure. It would be an insult to your intelligence and an unnecessary waste of time for me to repeat information already at your disposal. I have therefore confined my remarks to such points as I think may be of real use to you in studying the estimates placed before you. You will, I regret to say, note a decrease in the estimate of the amount which are expected to produce under most heads. This has necessitated the imposition of some few increased levies under certain heads and these after most careful consideration I have thought it possible to impose. Such are the increased dues on lighters, cargo and water boats—an increase of \$17,000, and emigration house; while the operation of the Companies (Local Register) Act is estimated to bring in \$20,000. In spite of these new impositions the total under this head is still less by \$16,000 than the estimate for the current year. Stamp duties, due to depressed trade, are estimated to produce less than this year, but I am taking steps to ensure their more complete and thorough collection which will bring them up to the same total. You will observe that except for a small and negligible decrease in the divan licenses no reduction has been made in the anticipated receipts from the opium trade. Any decrease therefore which may occur in consequence of the policy of His Majesty's Government remains unprovided for and if there is no surplus at the end of 1909 they must be met by special taxation, or from the Colony's reserves, in some other way. I am still in correspondence with the Secretary of State on this subject but the investigations which have been conducted here have taken a long time and the question has not reached any final solution, so that it has been impossible for me to deal with it in the Estimates. If there had been any surplus, however small, of revenue over expenditure it would have been whether a part of it should not be set aside for any possible liability on this account instead of debiting it to public works; there is not only no surplus at all but an excess of expenditure over revenue of \$72,170.

In these circumstances the question of the diminution of receipts from opium in consequence of the telegrams which I received from the Secretary of State and read to this Council does not arise in connection with the estimates and in consequence is not directly involved in the Bill now before you. I hope however at an early date to lay papers before you and to make a statement on this subject which will afford the unofficial members any opportunity they may desire of expressing their views.

Class 2 of revenue shows an increase of \$1,404 which would be augmented to \$58,404 if the \$17,000 for postal transit charges referred to had not been eliminated. This sum is properly a departmental credit under the new Colonial Register and has therefore been deducted from a postal expenditure instead of being shown as a credit under the revenue subject to military contribution. There is an increase of \$5,000 under Gunpowder Storage due to a fuller use being made of the very fine depot at Green Island which cost this Colony a large sum of money and has been little used in consequence of the dangers to private houses which were necessary before it was built. In order to meet the cost of the emigration sub-department in the Registrar General's office and also to meet our needs for general purposes the fees for the medical examination of emigrants have been increased and this is calculated to yield an increase of \$22,000. There is also an increase of fees in the Government School and Technical Institute and this is estimated to bring in altogether an increase for revenue purposes. It is rather a natural result of increased facilities for education which have resulted in a great increase in the number of pupils, and it must be regarded as a set off against increased expenditure on education. The decrease in the fees for medical treatment owing to fewer patients in hospital is the one solitary decrease upon which I can only congratulate the Council. The more we spend on training pupils and sanitation, etc., the more we may expect to see our revenue from this source decline and the health of the Colony improve. The large rise in timber sales, \$17,000, is due to the inauguration of felling operations which now that the timber has matured in certain areas has become possible. The scheme is to fell strips of blocks of timber annually during a cycle of 25 to 30 years so that when the last strip or block has been felled the earliest rotation is again ready. The increased estimate from this source should therefore be permanent but I do not feel certain that it has not been an optimistic estimate. The increase in sales of vaccines is one which I am especially glad to note since it indicates an increase of vaccination among the Chinese.

In class three there is nothing very special to note except the satisfactory collection of the land revenue in the New Territory. During the year I have been in the Colony I have found no subject of greater interest than the land settlement in the New Territory and I have been impressed alike with the ability shown by the present Assistant Colonial Secretary in the original assessment and the tact, energy and discrimination of his successors, Messrs. Wood and Hallifax, who have made the collection such a success. The revenue derived is many times greater than that levied by the Chinese Government prior to 1898. Yet it is paid with alacrity and has been so justly assessed that no hardship or discontent is felt by the people.

It is well, perhaps, for this Council to have occasionally the opinion of a Governor who comes new to the Colony and has had experience of works of this class and the value that it owes to the ability and hard work of some of its junior officials. Neither the principal nor the annual contribution to the Widows and Orphans fund in class five are helped to M. C. and therefore officers under the head of extraordinary revenue or below the line, as the phrase is. The total estimate for 1909 ordinary and extraordinary stands at \$5,738,335—an increase of \$481,105 over gross expenditure for last year. I come now to the estimate of expenditure of 1909. This stands at \$5,781,166, an increase of \$502,831 over the estimates for last year which in round figures is accounted for as follows:—The fall in exchange which has had so large a share in our deficit in the current year means an increase in salaries only in 1909 of \$156,278, new posts \$13,129, incremental rises \$2,480, increase of salary and allowances \$10,677, less small savings on various items \$5,427, equals \$40,865.

Capital expenditure on P. W. R. \$19,700 less a saving on P. W. R. \$4,500 and of \$17,950 on special expenditure accounts for \$167,250, military contribution \$15,601 and pensions \$55,000, addition \$50,001, while the additional interest on loans for railway costs to \$78,083 making a total of \$622,635. The loss by the fall in exchange is not of course ever fixed to the items of salaries alone but in all payments have to be made in sterling and is consequently responsible for a great part of the increase in the public works expenditure whereas last year on the basis of exchange we had justified in taking the rate of exchange at 2 1/2, resulting salaries and at 2 1/2 for all other items. I have been advised that it is not safe to base our calculations for next year at a higher uniform rate than 1 1/2. The increases in every department are due entirely to this course. In the Registrar General's department it has become necessary to create a small emigration sub-department in order to deal with the number of emigrants which has increased by thirty-four and a quarter per cent in the ten years prior to 1907 and by sixteen per cent over the previous year 1906 and in consequence of the provision of the new Ordinance which made increased protection to assisted emigrants. The examination of this class is now transferred from the Harbour Office to the Registrar General's department, and the cost of the sub-department is \$5,123 which is very much more than covered by the additional fees for medical inspection. In the Treasury audit there is nothing special to note. Under the Post Office you will observe that in spite of the reduction of mail subsidy by £1,450 there is an increase of \$5,550 due to fall in exchange while transit payments are increased by \$30,000. The question is whether the receipts from postal agencies in China, should be liable to Military Contribution, still under reference to the S. of S. The Imperial Treasury and the Municipality of Tientsin have between them guaranteed to refund the estimated loss on the working of that agency for the coming year and the Post Office will therefore, I am glad to say, remain open. In the Harbour Department a special sum of \$2,550 has been provided for a buoy for the Coast rocks, and some small expense is incurred on account of the new light to be placed on Blackhead's Hill. The new light is intended to improve the navigation of the Harbour which complaint was made when the S. S. *Fleur de* was aground. They are the result of correspondence with the Admiral and the report of the special committee. Regarding the Observatory I undertook last year to inquire very specially into the efficiency of this department. The Director assures me that the relations with other observatories are most cordial and that he has the best of instruments. He is the only person who can express an opinion on the latter point, but in order to ensure both these points I purpose that after the typhoon season is past he shall visit the observatories at Manila and Shanghai and see their instruments and get into close touch with the directors. He has complained in delay of telegrams from Hollow and I have been in correspondence with the Viceroy on this matter and I hope an improvement may be effected. In return we are sending improved warning to Canton of impending typhoons. We have also arranged a better system of telegraphic and telephonic communication with the Observatory. Under Miscellaneous Government is relieved of a total payment of \$70,000 on account of interest on the Widows and Orphans' Fund after a full \$50,000 is retained on the estimates for the redemption of subsidiary coinage pending a final decision on this question.

Considerable increase in salaries payable in sterling is due to fall in exchange. Under the vote for Land Office a Registry salary is provided for a new applicant in duty office therein who will also undertake trade marks registration. The necessity for this extra assistance has been strongly urged by the Chief Justice and after careful inquiry I have satisfied myself that it is necessary. Immediately on my arrival the Chief Justice represented to me the urgent necessity of a third Judge both in order to lighten the work of the Judges and in order to form a more effective Court of Appeal. I found that my predecessor had not considered that the necessity had been demonstrated and the Secretary of State after a full and fair argument put forward by the Chief Justice had finally negatived the proposal. I feel myself that the existing Appeal Court which consists of two Judges only of whom the Chief Justice had a casting vote must necessarily be a farce since it practically prohibited an appeal from a

himself he appointed the Director of Public Works and Mr. Williams, lately in the employ of the Naval Dock, as a committee to inspect them and furnish him with a report. They had forwarded their report with the observations of the Chief Resident Engineer to the Secretary of State for communication to the Consulting Engineers who were responsible to the Government for the efficiency of the construction in all technical matters. He had not received their reply and meanwhile he directed all work on bridges to be arrested. It was only fair to the Chief Resident Engineer to say that he was confident that the bridges were sound.

With regard to the progress of the construction work, His Excellency thought that the railway would be open to traffic about March 1910. Explanations were given with regard to the acquisition of a quarantine station.

The total estimated expenditure exceeded the estimated revenue by over \$72,000. The estimates had been drawn up on the prospect of severe depression, but he hoped that the Colony had touched low water mark. He referred with satisfaction to the statement made by the Chairman of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation that prospects were more favourable and that view was corroborated by the Imperial Commissioner of Customs at Canton.

His Excellency's speech occupied an hour and a half in its delivery. Bill read a first time.

EVIDENCE BILL.

The Attorney General moved, the Colonial Secretary seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that the Bill entitled an Ordinance to extend a certain definition in the Imperial Act styled the Evidence (Colonial Statutes) Act 1907, be read a first time.

THEATRES.

The Attorney General moved the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance for regulating theatres and other places of public resort.

The Colonial Secretary seconded. Bill read a first time.

The Bill provides that, "from and after the commencement of this Ordinance it shall not be lawful for any person to have or keep any house, matched or other place of public resort for the public performance of stage plays without a license granted by the Governor-in-Council under a penalty not exceeding two hundred dollars for every day on which such house or place shall have been so kept open for the purpose aforesaid."

The term "stage play" is defined to include every tragedy, comedy, farce, opera, burlesque, interlude, melodrama, pantomime, cinematograph display, exhibition of dancing, conjuring, juggling, acrobatic performance, boxing contest, circus, concert or other entertainment of the stage or any part thereof.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council adjourned till the 8th October when the second reading of the Finance Bill will be moved.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held immediately after the meeting of Council, the Colonial Secretary presiding. It was agreed to recommend that the following votes be adopted by the Council:

SANITARY DEPARTMENT.

A sum of five hundred and twenty-five dollars in aid of the vote, Sanitary Department, other charges, for the following items:—
Language study allowances \$ 75
Head stones 450
Total \$525

EDUCATION GRANTS IN AID.

A sum of three thousand six hundred and sixty-three dollars in aid of the vote, Education, other charges, grants, principal grants under Grant Code.

STEAM-LAUNCH REPAIRS.

A sum of three thousand dollars in aid of the vote, Harbour Master's Department, B.—Steam-launches, other charges, repairs.

BOTANICAL DEPARTMENT.

A sum of one hundred and fifty dollars in aid of the vote, Botanical and Forestry Department, other charges, library.

VIRE BRIGADE ENGINES.

A sum of five hundred dollars in aid of the vote, Police and Prison Departments, B.—Fire Brigade, other charges, repairs to engines and plant.

OBSERVATORY.

A sum of one hundred dollars in aid of the vote, Observatory, other charges, laboratory expenses.

LAND RESUMPTION.

A sum of six hundred and thirty-four dollars in aid of the vote, Public Works Extraordinary, miscellaneous, compensation for the resumption of certain lots in Demarcation District No. 183.

LIFE-SAVING APPARATUS.

A sum of five hundred and ninety-four dollars in aid of the vote, Harbour Master's Department, A.—Harbour Office, other charges, life-saving apparatus.

PRINTING.

A sum of eight thousand dollars in aid of the vote, Miscellaneous Services, printing and binding.

LAND RESUMPTION.

A sum of three hundred and two dollars in aid of the vote, Public Works Extraordinary, Miscellaneous, compensation for resumption of Lot No. 2,212 in Survey District IV, New Territories.

HEALTH OFFICER'S LAUNCH.

A sum of one hundred dollars in aid of the vote, Medical Departments, A.—Staff, Other Charges, Health Officer of Poo; repairs to launch.

PUBLIC WORKS.

A sum of six thousand eight hundred dollars in aid of the vote, Public Works, Recurrent, for the following items:—

Buildings \$3,000
Maintenance of Buildings 3,000
Communications 3,000
Maintenance of Telegraphs 3,000
New Territories 800
Total \$6,800

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE.

A sum of one hundred dollars in aid of the vote, Colonial Secretary's Department and Legislature, other charges, newspapers, periodicals, etc.

THE PATROL CRUISER.

"KIANG TA" SECOND RUN.

At two o'clock this afternoon the new West River patrol cruiser *Kiang Ta* proceeded on her second run, her first trial having been completed on Saturday as already reported. From Blackhead Point into the Northern Railway, thence to Aberdeen where she will be put to sea tomorrow on Saturday. There can be no question that the engines will meet all the demands made on them. The *Kiang Ta* had not returned when we went to press.

THE RECENT TYPHOON.

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF OBSERVATORY.

Under date 4th inst., the Governor transmitted a report to the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the typhoon of 27th-28th July, 1908. Among the enclosure is the following report from the Director of the Observatory which will be read with interest. Sir Frederick Lugard's report to Lord Elgin was laid before the Legislative Council last Thursday afternoon.

The typhoon which struck the Colony on the night of the 27th to 28th July last was possibly formed on the 25th to the eastward of the Balingting Channel. But as this typhoon must undoubtedly be classed as one of small area, in the absence of any data from the Pacific, this cannot be certainly affirmed. There is, in any case, no evidence whatever of its existence prior to the 25th. On this day a slight fall of the barometer took place in Luson and S. Formosa, although pressure remained slightly above the normal over both areas.

On the morning of the 26th a sharp fall, amounting to just over a tenth of an inch since the previous day, was noted at Koshun (S. Formosa) 29.71, and at Aparri (N. Coast of Luzon) 29.69, and the wind circulation, a strong N.E. breeze at the former, and a light S. breeze at the latter station, gave evidence, in conjunction with pressure conditions over surrounding areas, of the existence of a depression in the Balingting Channel. The position assigned to the centre on our weather map was 19° 4' N., 121° E., and information in accordance therewith was issued in Hongkong and the shipping notified by signal at 10.45 a.m.

The afternoon observations received from Koshun and Aparri indicated some movement of the depression to the westward. The barometer had risen at both stations, the wind had veered to E., a strong breeze at Koshun (bar 29.73) while a light S.W. air blew at Aparri (bar 29.73).

During the night a lay over the Pacific between the Bonin and Loochoo Islands on this day, an area of low pressure was situated over Manchuria, while conditions over S. China were practically normal.

The morning observations of the 27th showed a moderate increase of pressure in Luzon (Aparri 29.78, wind S.E., a light air, clear sky). The observations from Koshun did not reach the Observatory, but at Swatow the barometer read 29.71, wind N.E. force 1. In Hongkong, where pressure had given way two hundredths of an inch only, during the past 24 hours, and was below the normal by the same amount, the barometer at a.m. read 29.75, wind E. force 1. At Gap Rock a gentle breeze blew from N.E. These observations faintly indicated the existence of the depression but gave no clue whatever as to its severe character. It was believed to be situated at that time about 300 miles to the S.E. of the Colony and notice to that effect was given, and the Red signals were hoisted at 12.15 p.m.

Pressure on this day had weakened slightly but was still high over the Pacific between the Bonin and Loochoo Islands. The Manchurian depression had moved to N.E. and a slight increase of pressure had taken place over N. China. In the South the only abnormal feature was the light N.E. wind along the S. coast of China.

Perhaps the best evidence of the existence of the typhoon was furnished by clouds. The morning broke fine, the sky being almost cloudless. Shortly after noon a bank of clouds of the cirro-stratus type was observed bearing S.E. by E., its advancing edge being at an altitude of about 30°. At 4 p.m. this bank covered nearly the whole sky except just above the N.E. horizon where it was still clear. A few clouds of alto-cumulus below it were seen to be coming from N.E. by E. in the afternoon. The direction however was backing, a significant fact. At 6 p.m. they came from N.E. by N., and it was then that the Black signals were hoisted.

The barometer, still only 0.01 inch below the normal at 4 p.m., now began to fall and the wind, which had been chiefly a light breeze from E. during the day, shifted to the North. Gap Rock at 4 p.m. reported "light swell from S.E.", the wind there at the time being a gentle breeze from N.E. At the same hour Waglan reported a moderate breeze from N.E. At 7 p.m. it blew a fresh breeze from N.N.E. at Waglan and a gentle breeze from N. at Gap Rock, the swell still being reported from the latter station as "slight from S.E.". It thus appears that sea swell in this instance had not outrun the advancing storm to any considerable distance. Rain commenced to fall at the Observatory at 8 p.m.

The following observations show the conditions prevailing at 9 p.m. Observatory barometer 29.64, wind north force 3. West 29.63, N. N. W. 7. Gap Rock 29.57, N. N. W. 6. The swell reported by the latter station was now moderate from S.E. These observations appeared to indicate the probability of the typhoon centre reaching the coast in the neighbourhood of the Colony, and I then wired a message to that effect to Hongkong for distribution. The barometer at the Observatory still read only 0.12 inch below normal, but the gradient between here and the lighthouses was increasing.

The barometer now commenced to fall quickly and the wind to rise and at 11.15 p.m. (standard time) No. 3 night signal, accompanied by the firing of three bombs was made. This indicated that the gale then blowing was likely to increase to full typhoon force. The following observations are from Observatory records, the time being given in Hongkong mean time.

Time	Barom.	Wind	Dir.	Velocity
July 27th, 6 p.m.	29.65	N.	8	
" 7 "	29.65	N.	12	
" 8 "	29.65	N.	17	
" 9 "	29.64	N.	20	
" 10 "	29.63	N.	39	
" 11 "	29.61	N.	53	
July 28th, 1 a.m.	29.59	N.E. by N.	75	
" 2 "	29.58	S.E.	81	
" 3 "	29.58	S.E.	54	
" 4 "	29.58	S. by E.	42	
" 5 "	29.63	S. by E.	36	
" 6 "	29.7	S.	33	

The barometric minimum, 28.85, occurred at 1 hr. 3 m. a.m. The wind moderated somewhat at about 1 a.m.—the direction was veering quickly towards S.E. and S.—but rose again a few minutes later and blew with greater fury than before, the squalls being not only terrific but also of long duration between 1.5 a.m. and 4.5 a.m. At about 2 a.m. the wind began to moderate. It is probable that the greater part of the damage on shore occurred during this interval. In the Observatory compound nearly all the damage was caused by the S.S.E. wind, trees and other debris falling towards N.W. and N.N.W.

Rain, which practically ceased to fall between midnight and 1 a.m., set in again at the latter hour and lightning, which had been first observed at 11 p.m., continued until 5 a.m. With the exception of the typhoon of September 18, 1907, this is the only occasion on which lightning has been observed here near the centre of a typhoon during the past 25 years. Thunder was not heard.

The record of wind velocity is not available probably from midnight. The squalls carrying the rain fell just above the supporting arms of the windmill during the night, the wind being retained in the mill, but of course, during the high velocity it could not have occurred.

Observations subsequently received from Waglan and Gap Rock show that it blew with full typhoon force at the former station, from N.E. at midnight and from N.N.E. at 1 a.m., the barometer falling to 28.70 at the latter hour. At Gap Rock typhoon force was not recorded. The lowest barometer reading, 29.24, occurred at 1 a.m. with the wind a whole gale (force 10) from west, and subsequently at 2 a.m. and 3 a.m. from S.W., when it began to moderate.

The greatest distance between the Observatory and Waglan at midnight was equivalent to just over half an inch in 15 miles.

These observations show that the centre of the typhoon passed within a distance of 10 miles to the southward of the Observatory near 1 a.m.

Subsequently at about 7 a.m. the typhoon passed to the south and west of Canton. It had probably filled up to some extent but was still a severe storm.

The accompanying track of the disturbance has been laid down from such observations as are available. It shows that the centre of disturbance was situated at noon on the 26th in about 19° 4' N., 120° 4' E., on the 27th at noon in 20° 4' N., 119° 4' E., and at 9 a.m. on the 28th in 23° 4' N., 112° 4' E. Between noon on the 26th and the same hour on the 27th it moved towards W. by N. at an average speed of about 91 miles per hour. It curved more to the northward between noon on the 27th and 9 a.m. on the 28th, and moved with increasing speed, the average direction being towards N.W. by W. and the average speed about 74 miles per hour. It probably increased in depth from the time it left the Balingting Channel until its arrival on the coast at Hongkong when it doubtless commenced to fill up on its passage over the land.

This typhoon was of very similar type to that of September 18th, 1906. Some features were common to both, such as the absence of early barometrical indications, the presence of lightning at and near the centre, and the absence of sea swell, at any considerable distance in advance of the storm. As far as the Colony itself is concerned, this typhoon was certainly more severe than that of September, 1906. The storm area was somewhat larger in this occasion, possibly in the proportion of 5 to 3, but the radius of the area over which strong gales blew does not appear to have exceeded 35 miles on an average, and the typhoon must certainly be classed as a small one for this latitude. The rainfall due to it was only 3.2 inches, which, having regard to the fact that the centre passed practically over the Colony, is comparatively small.

Unfortunately the record of the Victoria Peak anemograph was entirely lost. The cups blew away with the westerly wind and later the entrance door on the S. side of the "Look-out" blew in and carried the recording apparatus over to the N. wall, snapping the connecting rods off at the ceiling.

It remains to be stated that the observation from Gap Rock and Waglan proved of the utmost value and the lightkeepers deserve credit for the promptitude with which they forwarded them, as long as telegraphic connection remained intact.

F. G. FIGG,
Director.

Hongkong Observatory,
8th August, 1908.

THE APPROPRIATION BILL.

COLONY'S EXPENDITURE IN 1909.

The items provided in the Appropriation Bill read a first time before the Legislative Council last Thursday afternoon are as follows:—
Governor \$ 86,992
Colonial Secretary 73,230
Registrar General's Department 45,814
Audit Department 26,101
Treasury 65,907
Post Office 44,475
Harbour Master's Department 17,250
Harbour Office, Special Expenditure 2,550
Observatory 21,452
Miscellaneous Services 197,069
Judicial and Legal Departments 216,483
Police and Prison Departments 731,151
Police, Special Expenditure 1,500
Medical Departments 248,197
Sanitary Department 428,882
Botanical and Forestry Department, 51,661
Education 232,139
Military Expenditure 47,361
Public Works 313,910
Public Works Department 313,910
Public Works, Recurrent 433,000
Public Works, Extraordinary 1,042,500
Charge on account of Public Debt 453,096
Pensions 231,000
Charitable Services 77,356
Total \$5,670,427

A CONTRACTOR'S TROUBLES.

QUESTION OF PARTNERSHIP DECIDED.

In the Supreme Court, this morning, the action was concluded in which Fan Cheuk-ting, a contractor of Hunghom, sought to recover from another contractor, by name Kwan Fung, \$365.50, money paid by plaintiff to defendant at the latter's request.

Mr. Kito Kong Sing represented the plaintiff, and Mr. Davidson of Messrs. Hastings and Hastings, the defendant.

The case for the prosecution was that plaintiff and defendant were partners together with two others, in a firm called the Hop Sing. In November, 1907, the other two partners of the firm sued the plaintiff and defendant in this action for the taking of partnership accounts. A receiver was appointed, accounts were taken, and it was ultimately agreed that plaintiff and defendant were jointly indebted to the other two partners in the sum of \$442.80. Besides that the plaintiff claimed that he paid out a sum of \$38.30 to creditors of the firm after the accounts were taken. He claimed half of both the amounts mentioned.

Mr. Justice Gompertz took time to consider his decision and this morning he entered judgment for the plaintiff for \$21.40 with costs.

CATS FOR SALE.

A "PLAQUE PREVENTER" IN TROUBLE.

For trying to supply the public's wants, and to please the Sanitary Department at the same time, a hawker named Hung Fong was severely punished by the Sanitary Department. He was charged with selling cats in the Colony, simply because they doubted whether the cats would be at home when their services were needed. The second objection was raised by the police, because Hung possessed no licence for his alleged wrongful trade. Consequently, Hung was charged, in the Police Court, with having no licence, and was fined \$4.

LAUNCH AT KOWLOON.

ANOTHER PATROL CRUISER TAKES THE WATER.

24th INST.

The second of the West River patrol cruisers building in Hongkong to the order of the Government at Canton was launched today in the presence of a distinguished gathering of British, Chinese and American naval officers and a number of civilians connected with the shipping interest in Hongkong and Canton. Among those present at the building yards of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., at Hunghom, this morning, to take part in the interesting ceremony were: Rear-Admiral Stokes, Secretary Blackford, Admiral Li Chun, Commander-in-Chief, Kwangtung Navy, Commodore Liu Yee-fan, Chief Engineer Cheung Pan-yun, Captain Ng Kwong-chung, Chan Siu-yung, Teung See-yung, Kong Po, and Lau Kai, Mr. Harris, acting Commissioner, Kowloon Customs, Commander Giesse, H. M. S. *Zanar*, Capt. and Mrs. McCormick, U. S. S. *Albatross*, Lieut. Commander J. Kiddle, and Officer H. M. S. *Whiting*, Lieut. Commander H. R. Tickell and Officers, H. M. S. *Sandpiper*, Hon. Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Gresson, Mr. R. Mitchell, acting chief manager, Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Mr. W. Wilson, manager, Kowloon, Capt. T. P. Hall, members of the staff of the various Dock Departments, and a number of British and American officers. There were also present the following Chinese gentlemen:—Messrs. Fung Wa-chun, Ho-yau and Tang-cheng, as well as other cricketers and other officials of the Chinese Navy. The Chinese gentleman who acts as constructor was among the guests, as also Mr. Brown, the European instructor of wireless telegraphy to the Chinese Government in Canton. The limited accommodation provided on the platform was insufficient for the large number of guests, many of whom took their positions on the deck of the new cruiser building for the Portuguese Government at Dilly, Timor.

The patrol cruiser was bedecked with bunting and on the word "Go" being given she moved down the ways without a hitch and took the water amidst a salvo of crackers and cheers. As she plied down Mrs. Gresson, wife of the chairman of the Dock Co., in orthodox style, broke the bottle of champagne across the cruiser's bow naming her the *Kiang Chi*.

On behalf of the Dock Co., Mr. Mitchell presented Mrs. Gresson with a gold bangle as a souvenir of the part she had taken in the pleasant ceremony.

An adjournment was made to the drawing office where felicitous speeches were exchanged. Admiral Li's address in Chinese being rendered into English by Mr. Fung Wa-chun.

The Chinese Commander-in-Chief presented Mrs. Gresson with a handsome bouquet of flowers, thanking her, as he made the presentation, for so gracefully performing the ceremony of naming the new patrol cruiser.

On the conclusion of the function Admiral Li, attended by his entire suite, and accompanied by Capt. T. P. Hall, superintending the cruisers on behalf of the Chinese Government, and Mr. Fung embarked in a launch and proceeded to Kwong Hip Lung's yards where the energetic Chinese official made a personal inspection of the other two cruisers, returning to Hongkong shortly before noon.

KOWLOON WATERWORKS.

THE GRAVITATION SCHEME.

Concerning this important public work, the Director of Public Works writes in his annual report laid before the Legislative Council last Thursday:—

The works in progress during the year comprised the storage reservoir, filter beds, catchwater and distribution works. Though still incomplete, the new works afforded an ample supply of water throughout the year for the inhabitants of Kowloon Peninsula.

STORAGE RESERVOIR.

Very poor progress was made with this contract. The height of the main dam was increased by 9 feet during the year bringing it up to 427 feet above Ordnance Datum or 21 feet above low water level. The following are the quantities of material used in its construction during the year:—

Cement concrete 3,900 cubic yards.
Rubble masonry facingwork, 200 " "
Ashlar 3,000 " "
The concrete foundation for the bywash dam was completed up to ground level, and the side walls of the bywash channel were under construction over a length of about 200 feet.

FILTER BEDS.

The meters and pipes for the filter beds arrived during the year but not in time to admit of the completion of this section of the work. The pipes were however fixed in the filtering material placed in the beds, only the fixing of the meters and building of the meter house remaining to be done.

CATCHWATER.

This work would have been completed during the year, and it had not been for landslides which were caused by heavy rainstorms. The first of these occurred in May and brought down a mass of rock, earth and boulders amounting to about 2,500 cubic yards which completely blocked the catchwater at 9,500 feet. In September another rainstorm following a typhoon caused slips of earth amounting to 3,000 cubic yards which blocked the catchwater in two places. As the result of these landslides it was considered advisable to build some additional side walls and to construct another overflow and these works were prosecuted until the end of the year, the reconstruction of the catchwater being, of course, completed, and a small amount of walling below the catchwater were the only works remaining to be done in connection with this portion of the work.

DISTRIBUTION WORKS.

Considerable progress was made, with this section of work. On the west side of the Peninsula the supply was extended to Tai Kok Tsui, Fuk Tsau Heung and Sham Shui Po, whilst additional mains were laid in Yau-mai and Mong Kok Tsui. At Kowloon Point the 4" main in Austin and Macdonnell Roads was replaced by a 7" from Station Street South to Chater Road, the Robinson Road main was extended to the Praya and the 4" main in Salisbury Road completed. On the east side of the Peninsula the supply was extended to Kowloon Road, for which the 7" cast iron pipe mentioned above were substituted. 1,700 feet 3" cast iron pipes in Station Street North, from the Pumping Station to the Police Station, Yau-mai. This main was laid as a temporary measure in 1907 to enable the supply from the Cheung Sha Wan Intake to be more fully availed of. The introduction of the

GRAVITATION SUPPLY FROM THE NEW WORKS RENDERED USELESS.

The mains connecting the wells, which formed the original sources of supply, with the pumping station were taken up and cleaned preparatory to relaying. This included the taking up of:—
2,400 feet 7" cast iron pipes.
4,400 " 6" " "

NEW POST OFFICE.

PROGRESS REPORT.

It is stated in the report on the Public Works Department for 1907, in connection with the new Post Office, that the whole of the walls of the building, except those of the verandahs, had reached a height of from 44 to 74 feet above the level of the first floor and all the frames for the doors and windows on that floor were fixed. The verandah walls were completed to the level of the first floor and some of the moulded base for the balustrade on that floor was set. The dressed granite set in the work amounted to 22,504 cubic feet and a considerable quantity was prepared ready for setting. Granolithic balustrades to the number of 800 were moulded, bringing the total number ready for fixing to 1,800.

The average number of masons employed daily was 108.

The whole of the steelwork for the first floor and the cast iron columns supporting it were fixed, besides 5 cast iron columns for supporting the steelwork of the second floor.

The cement concrete, of which the floor is almost entirely composed, was laid over the whole area with the exception of the east verandah and the timber joists over the Postal Hall were fixed.

THE JULY TYPHOON.

GOVERNOR'S REPORT.

Following are extracts from the Governor's report to Lord Elgin on the typhoon of 27th-28th July last:—

From these [departmental] reports, Your Lordship will observe that 26 privately owned buildings collapsed with a loss of 59 lives, while the total number of buildings seriously damaged was 67. The minor Government buildings collapsed, and damage was done to 72 Government buildings with a loss of one life. The cost of the necessary repairs to Government buildings, roads, etc., is estimated by Mr. Chatham at \$79,449.

The casualties to native craft of all descriptions during the typhoon were as follows:—

Fishing and unlicensed junks	Inside harbour limits	Outside harbour limits	Sunk	Wrecked	Damaged	Persons missing
17	7	2	39			
66	25	7	219			
83	32	9	258			
Cargo and other boats and sampan	Inside harbour limits	Outside harbour limits	36	5	1	
6	6	1	13			
42	11	2	13			
Total native craft of all descriptions	Inside harbour limits	Outside harbour limits	53	12	3	39
72	31	8	232			
125	43	11	271			
European officers			3			
European passengers			3			
Chinese passengers			427			
Chinese crew (including comprador's staff)			33			
Total			466			

advised product in favour of the home-grown drug when and if the Hongkong merchants refuse to yield to the terms dictated by the monopolising licence-holders. In the expressive colloquialism employed by one gentleman, "the Government take notice that this investigation is made and that the licences are issued to carry out the rules authorized by the Administration Department."

Now from the 1st day of the 6th moon, all the raw and prepared opium shops and opium

Nippon Yusen Kaisha, sisters to the *Kamo Maru*; the third, *Toyo Kisen Kaisha* vessel; two tank steamers, of 9,320 tons gross, for the *Toyo Kisen Kaisha*; and a sister-ship to the *Sakura Maru* for the Volunteer Fleet. The first of the above to take the water will be one of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's vessels, probably in November.

Defendant's statement was to the effect that he had never been in Hongkong before, but that one of his crew was acquainted with the place.

an alarm for an outbreak of fire which occurred in Luan Hing Street. The different fire brigades at once answered the call and proceeded to the scene to render assistance in putting down the conflagration. The fire con-

AMONG the passengers who arrived last Thursday from the homeland by the P. & O. liner *Santa Rosa*, was Police Sergeant Jim of the local force. Mr. Jim had just returned from Italy.

VOLUNTEER CORPS ORDERS.

ARTILLERY UNITS.

3rd Period. Company Training.
Each company will have one evening a week and all officers, N.C.O.'s and men should endeavour to attend the drill night of their company during the four weeks company training.
All instruction during company training will be given by the officers of the company.
No. 1 Company...Monday, the 28th instant.
No. 2 Company...Tuesday, the 29th instant.
No. 3 Company...Wednesday, the 30th instant.
No. 4 Company...Friday, the 2nd October, 1908.
ENGINEER COMPANY.

Parade.—At West Fort, Kowloon, at 9 p.m. on Wednesday, the 30th instant, for technical instructions.

ENGINEER AND INFANTRY COMPANIES.
Parade.—At Volunteer Headquarters at 5.30 p.m. on Monday, the 28th instant, and Friday, the 2nd October, for Infantry Drills. Sergt. Downes, 3rd Middlesex Regt., will attend.

TAI KOOW DETACHMENT.
Parade.—At Tai Koo at 5.30 p.m. on Thursday, the 1st October, 1908, for Infantry Drills. Sergt. Downes, 3rd Middlesex Regt., will attend.

JOINED.
Mr. R. P. Phillips joined the Corps on the 15th September, 1908, assigned Corps No. 1047 and posted to the Infantry Company.

Mr. J. Hall joined the Corps on the 15th September, 1908, assigned Troop No. 56 and posted to the Troop.

Mr. J. Martin joined the Corps on the 18th September, 1908, assigned Corps No. 1048 and posted to the Infantry Company.

Mr. J. R. Irvine joined the Corps on the 18th September, 1908, assigned Corps No. 1049 and posted to the Infantry Company.

Mr. A. C. Pailley joined the Corps on the 18th September, 1908, assigned Corps No. 1050 and posted to the Infantry Company.

Mr. W. M. Weston joined the Corps on the 18th September, 1908, assigned Troop No. 57 and posted to the Troop.

Mr. H. Morris joined the Corps on the 18th September, 1908, assigned Troop No. 58 and posted to the Troop.

Mr. H. E. Moon joined the Corps on the 18th September, 1908, assigned Troop No. 59 and posted to the Troop.

Mr. G. D. McIlraith joined the Corps on the 18th September, 1908, assigned Troop No. 60 and posted to the Troop.

RESIGNED.
Gunner W. Hest is permitted to resign with effect from the 17th instant.

STRUCK OFF.
Gunner McIntosh is struck off the strength of the Corps with effect from this date.

LEAVE.
Lieut. J. S. Gubbay is granted leave of absence out of the Colony for 6 months with effect from the 19th instant.

NOTICE.
With reference to Corps Orders dated 16th September, 1908, the resignation of Gunner L. Leighton is hereby cancelled.

In Corps Order No. 4 of 15th September, 1908, for gun drill, read infantry drill. Sergt. Downes will attend.

DUTY.
Officer on duty for week commencing September 28th, Lieut. M. S. Northcott. Next for duty Lieut. W. M. Scott.

NO. 4 COMPANY.
In the special order of the above Company dated September 17th reference is made to a shoot at Tai Haug on October 18th. Owing to the commencing of Camp on the 17th this shoot is cancelled.

COMMERCIAL.

FREIGHT MARKET.

Messrs. Lamke and Rogge write in their fortnightly circular of 19th instant:

Although the inquiry for tonnage turned out less restricted than could be expected when last writing, and actual chartering effected has been on a larger scale than during the preceding month, yet freights all along the coast—there is exception whatever—continue upon a non-paying basis. It is becoming more and more evident that an improvement in rates is anywhere but near at hand, in spite of reports from the North as regards autumn crops leading more hopeful than of late, the abundance of unemployed tonnage, as also the difficulty in securing grain that Saigon shippers seem to meet with, reduced expectations for any profitable chartering business for the remaining part of the year to a very low compass. Apart from Saigon freights, which from present appearances are sure to prove a failure, there is at present also no indication that the Hongkong trade will see any revival during the autumn, neither does Java promise to provide much of an outlet for outside tonnage.

With regard to actual fixtures reported during the fortnight, these embrace from Saigon to this port a small vessel, which secured 7 cents per picul; two larger vessels had to be content with 5 cents only, and were not even given the guarantee of a full cargo.

From Saigon to 1 port Philippines one fixture has taken place at 25 cents for 20,000 piculs, whilst two vessels were chartered at 19 cents for 28,000 piculs. Further orders in same direction are in the market, but charterers' ideas are too low altogether to draw offers of tonnage.

A combination business has been arranged for a 2,000-ton vessel to load from Saigon to Java (consecutive trips) and after completion thereof a cargo from Java to Hongkong, charterers paying a lump sum rate.

From Newchwang and Tientsin to Canton a "Liner" has been fixed for a small cargo at 20 cents per picul.

Of coal charters, two are on record from Moji to Hongkong at \$1.30 and \$1.25, respectively. A few more settlements are said to have been effected on an even lower basis in London and Japan. Wakamatsu to Canton has the charter of a 2,000-ton at \$1.75 per ton, and Hongkong to Penang at \$1.75.

Timber Charter.—Norw. s.s. *Ragnar* has been taken up for a voyage from Rajang to Hongkong at \$1.60 in ball.

Monthly.—For the term of 1 option a further month s.s. *Quarta* and s.s. *Solida* are reported fixed, the former vessel for Java account and the latter being intended for cattle trade.

Sail Tonnage Loading or to Load.—For Baltimore and/or New York: *Erit* ship *Julius*, 2,652 tons reg., arrived 6th June. *Brit. King George*, 2,775 tons reg., arrived 25th July. *Brit. King George*, 2,775 tons reg., arrived 18th August. *Brit. King George*, 2,775 tons reg., arrived 18th September.

Sail Tonnage Discharged.—None.
Departure of Sailers.—None.

WEEKLY SHARE REPORT.

Reviewing the share business for the week Messrs. E. S. Kadoorie & Co. write on 25th inst. (week):

A fair general business has been transacted in our market during the week under review, and rates in most cases have ruled fairly steady. Stocks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Bank

have improved to \$770, and which rate sales have been effected. The London rate is \$80.

Marine Insurance.—Small sales of Canton have been effected at \$1.50. North-China continues in further demand at \$1.80 in the North. A further improvement in Union has taken place and there are buyers at \$780 after sales at \$770. Yangtze can be had at \$1.16.

Fire Insurance.—There are buyers of China Firms at \$94. Hongkong Firms can be placed at \$90.

Shipping.—Douglases are quiet at \$34.48 the dividend of \$1 per share, paid on the 21st inst. Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamers continue in demand at \$184, closing with buyers at the rate. Shell Transports are slightly easier at 4 1/2.

Refineries.—China Sugars are unchanged and without business to report. Perak Sugars can be sold at \$1.90 in the North.

Mining.—Chinese Engineerings continue quiet at \$1.16. Raubers are a shade weaker at \$1.2.

Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Kowloon Wharves continue to rule steady at \$90. Sales of Shanghai Docks have taken place at the improved rate of \$1.75. Hongkong Wharves are offering in the North at \$1.16.

Land, Hotels and Buildings.—Hongkong Hotels and Hongkong Lands are unchanged and without business to report. Humphrey's Estates are wanted at \$9. It is notified that an extraordinary general meeting of shareholders in this Company will be held on Thursday, the 1st October, for the purpose of passing the following resolution:—That the sum of \$5,000 be divided in the credit of equalization of dividend 1/2% be transferred to the credit of typhoon and floods insurance fund. Shanghai Lands have declined to \$1.13, but there are buyers at the rate.

Cotton Mills.—Ewos can be sold in the North at \$1.16. Hongkong Cottons remain quiet at \$1.1. Internationals have changed hands at \$1.16.

Miscellaneous.—China Providents have found buyers at \$94, and Dairy Farms at \$20. Green Island Cements have again been dealt in at \$1. Sales of Hongkong Electric have been effected at \$10. Angkats have buyers at the improved rate of \$1.65.

Exchange.—The Banks selling rate on London is 1/2 on demand. The T/T rate on Shanghai is 75 1/2.

Dividends Payable.—Hongkong Cottons—Dividend of 50 cents per share for period from 1st August, 1907, to 31st July, 1908, payable to-morrow.

TO-DAY'S EXCHANGE.

Selling.

London—Bank T.T. 1/2 9 1/2

Do 4 months sight 1/2 9 1/2

Do 6 months sight 1/2 9 1/2

Amoy—Bank T.T. 1/2 9 1/2

Do 4 months sight 1/2 9 1/2

Do 6 months sight 1/2 9 1/2

Shanghai—Bank T.T. 1/2 9 1/2

Do 4 months sight 1/2 9 1/2

Do 6 months sight 1/2 9 1/2

Japan—Bank T.T. 1/2 9 1/2

Do 4 months sight 1/2 9 1/2

Do 6 months sight 1/2 9 1/2

Perman (Paper) 1/2 9 1/2

Opium Quotations.

To-day's quotations are as follows:—

Malwa New 1/2 9 1/2

Old 1/2 9 1/2

Older 1/2 9 1/2

Oldest 1/2 9 1/2

Perman (Paper) 1/2 9 1/2

Perman (Paper) 1/2 9 1/2

Perman (Paper) 1/2 9 1/2

Perman (Paper) 1/2 9 1/2

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Perman (Paper) 1/2 9 1/2

Perman (Paper) 1/2 9 1/2

Perman (Paper) 1/2 9 1/2

MAJOR-GENERAL Murata, the inventor of the rifle called after him, is reported to be lying dangerously ill. He is 72 years of age.

SIAM is about to have a Bailment Act, which would be for the benefit of the country to the other.

IT is announced that Prince Tsai Chen, who was appointed Commissioner to welcome the American Fleet, has now refused to accept the appointment.

THEIR Majesties the Emperor and Empress of Japan, sympathizing with the sufferers from the disastrous fire in Nijiga on the 4th instant, have presented a sum of ¥1,000 in aid of the relief fund for the sufferers.

THE Colonial Secretary has received the following telegram from H. H. Consul-General at Shanghai: "The outbreak of infection at Shanghai, Hongkong and Canton will be withdrawn from the 25th September."

A TELEGRAM has been received at the Colonial Secretary's Office from the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam that the regulations imposed against arrivals from Hongkong at Chittagong have been withdrawn.

AN Indian who drives about Calcutta in a motor-car makes a habit of adding attar of roses in his petrol, and the odour of the exhaust is stated to form a pleasant contrast to that of the London motor-omnibus.

HIS Majesty the King has not been advised to exercise the free port allowance with reference to Ordinance No. 13 of 1908, entitled:—An Ordinance to prohibit the exportation of prepared opium to China, and to French Indo-China.

IT is reported from the North that, owing to the continuing weather, there being experienced throughout that region, there are grave fears that the inhabitants round about Peking and the vicinity will suffer greatly this winter owing to the consequent failure of the crops.

MAJOR-GENERAL R. G. Broadwood, C.B., Commanding H.B.M.'s Forces in South China, accompanied by Captain Heathcote, A.D.C., left Shanghai on 19th inst. by the str. *Kobe Maru* for Dalny, whence he will make an extended tour of the Manchurian battlefields.

ADVISES have been received in Tokyo to the effect that the free port allowance will be exercised on November 1st, two months earlier than was expected. The Russian Government is reported to have decided to add twenty gunboats to the patrol flotilla on the River Amur.

ANOTHER illegal postman was convicted in the Police Court, last Saturday morning. His name is Tsang Ip, and he was charged with bringing letters into the Colony for delivery without the same having passed through the Post Office. He was fined \$50, or in default to go to gaol for two months.

THE Rev. I. Genahr begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations for the "Blind Home":—

Sum already acknowledged \$722

W. Pastenend, Esq. 15

Lai Fuk Mi, Esq. 45

Meih, Exp. Mission, Local (Chinese) 25.40

Basel Mission, Local (Chinese) 12.07

WHILE walking along Queen's Road Central last Tuesday afternoon an aged Chinese woman slipped on what is believed to be a banana skin, receiving certain injuries to her head.

The old lady was taken to the Tung Wah Hospital in an unconscious state. Her injuries are not of a serious nature, but she is not expected to be discharged from hospital before a week.

EARLY this morning (13rd inst.) a monk named Lung Sin Lam committed suicide by jumping from the harbour. He was seen to jump off the prayer wall, and after some difficulty he was rescued. He appeared in the Police Court, this morning, to answer the charge of attempting to kill himself, and was remanded in Police custody to undergo medical examination, as it is believed his mind is unbalanced.

A COUPLE of the most popular members of the I.M. Customs, in the persons of G. J. Jensen and J. Gorman, assistant examiners, received their orders last week, reports the *Shanghai Mercury*. Mr. Jensen goes to Kiangchow, Hoihow, as full examiner and Mr. Gorman goes to Yochow. Both officers will be entertained to dinner by their Customs comrades prior to their departure for their new posts.

THE offices of the Supreme Court will be open daily during the Long Vacation, except upon public holidays, from 10 o'clock in the forenoon, until 5 o'clock in the afternoon, subject, however, to the provisions of section 10 of the "Supreme Court (Vacation) Ordinance, 1897," so far as it relates to the criminal sessions from the 20th day of September, 1908, until the 17th day of October, 1908, (both days inclusive).

THE Nagasaki Chamber of Commerce has received a letter from Mr. Nakahashi, president of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, in response to the Chamber's request that Nagasaki shall be made one of the ports of call of the Kaisha's proposed American service. Mr. Nakahashi said that a definite decision in the matter had not yet been arrived at, pending the result of investigations which are now proceeding. The Chamber is also engaged in attempting to ascertain how much cargo and the number of passengers which would probably be available at Nagasaki for the Company's steamers.

OWING to the dissatisfaction recently expressed by the Empress Dowager with reference to the lax manner in which the Imperial Commissioners of Opium Prohibition have carried out their duties, their Excellencies have drawn up a set of drastic regulations which, we understand, have been approved by the Throne and will soon be published and put into operation throughout the Empire. It is also stated that memorials have been presented to their Majesties from the Viceroy of Manchuria and the Governor of Heilungkiang recommending the shortening of the period allowed for the entire stoppage of poppy cultivation throughout the Empire. It will be remembered that the late Imperial Edict on the subject gave ten years as the limit.

SOME commotion followed the arrival of the steamer *Fortin* from Canton, this morning (19th inst.), inquiries made by the police men on duty at the wharf elicited the information that one of the passengers—a stall-holder of the Shau-ki Market, a man named Kam Wah—had lost his bundle, which contained about \$15 worth of clothing. While Kam was explaining this to the policeman man, who was carrying two bundles, showed his way through the crowd, apparently in a hurry to get home. As he was passing one of the bundles appeared familiar to Kam, who seized him. On examination the bundle proved to be Kam's property. Kam was taken charge of by the officer and removed to headquarters. This morning, he was found guilty of theft and was sentenced to six weeks' hard labour.

A WITNESS message to Japan papers states that the "Harbin" Flying Milling Machine has obtained a charter from the Russian Ministry of Finance, and that work will begin on the 1st proximo.

THE CONTINGENT-General of the Netherlands Informant telegraphic information has been received from the Governor-General of Netherlands India, that the sanitary measures adopted against Hongkong on account of plague have been withdrawn.

ONE of the most satisfactory indications that plague is finished in Hongkong is found in the statement issued last Tuesday by the Sanitary Department to the following effect:—"These returns will not in future be sent unless there is a plague case to report."

THE Nagasaki Press records the death of Captain Julius Andersen, which took place on Friday, 11th inst., at St. Bernard's Hospital, Nagasaki, after a short illness, the cause being pneumonia poisoning. The deceased was a native of Norway and only came to the Far East in February last.

THE Board of Works, Agriculture and Commerce has proclaimed that henceforward any one petitioning for the opening of mines shall be granted a period of one year, only, in which to commence working same, failing which, the permit will be rescinded and granted to others, so that mines may be opened without delay.—*Chinese Public Opinion*

ACCORDING to a Nagasaki telegram the training ship *Matsumoto*, which sank at Mako, in the Pescadore Islands, as the result of an explosion, is now being blown up, the object being the salvage of the most important machinery. The work is making favourable progress. The bodies of eighteen petty officers and bluejackets lost in the disaster are still missing.

THE following directions in English (?) are enclosed in a headcase cure of Japanese manufacture:—

GWANSAN—SENKINTAN. NOTICE.
His medicine is used for antitoxin, headache, various tooth, dizziness and pyrexia. Four chopsticks to a man, two to a baby, will be used at a day with fresh water at three times.

A VLADIVOSTOK dispatch reports that the management of the Russo-Chinese Bank has been transferred to the Department of Finance and the business extended. The bank will negotiate advances on a large scale in order to further the efforts of farmers in North Manchuria. Changes in the head and branch offices of the bank have already been made for this purpose.

MR. S. D. Setna courteously informs us that he received a telegram from Bombay on the evening of the 19th inst. stating that the cricket match played at Bombay between the Parsies and the Presidency resulted in the victory of the Parsies by 76 runs. This is the first of the triangular matches. On the 21st, 22nd and 23rd inst. the winners (the Presidency) have to play against the Indians.

A WUCHANG letter states that on the night of the 10th instant, taking advantage of the revolutionaries, the celebration of the Mid-Autumn Festival (15th moon) of the 8th moon, a band of desperadoes conspired to make a raid on the strong-room of the Provincial Treasurer's office. Fortunately the matter was discovered in time by the authorities to frustrate the desperadoes, who at once scattered to various parts in the Yangtze Valley.

THE Viceroy and Governors of the Two Kwang and Yun-kwei provinces have received instructions from the Central Government to make a thorough survey by military engineers of the frontiers of the four provinces above noted in order that all strategic points may be fortified and properly garrisoned without delay. It is expected that by these means there will be no more attempts on the part of revolutionaries to cause trouble in the future.

THE *Japan Advertiser* has received the following New York cable, dated Sept. 8:—The *New York Herald* has renewed its anti-Japanese campaign, using the reported recital of Wu Tsi-ling in a text. It contends that the Chinese Minister is the victim of a Japanese plot which looks to his removal. The same paper returns at intervals to its agitation for an alliance between the United States and China, and is featuring the despatches of its special correspondent, Mr. J. Ohl, now at Peking.

THE *San Francisco* states that the Japanese marine insurance companies partly attribute the recent increase in shipping accidents to the larger employment of old vessels. They have consequently decided not to insure any vessels constructed in 1870 or previously, or the cargo which they carry. Under same circumstances, insurances may be refused on ships of earlier date than 1883. In taking this action the Japanese companies have been influenced by the fact that foreign insurance companies refuse to reinsure such vessels and their cargo.

A COOLIE, named Cheung Kam Chun, with an alleged address at 7, T. W. Street, was accused at the Magistrate's last Monday with being a housebreaker. It was submitted that Cheung gained admittance to 4, Bowrington Canal Road West, by smashing open the door. He entered the house, collected a bundle of clothing worth \$5 and was proceeding to leave the building when unfortunately he fell over himself and made such a hubbub that he woke everybody in the neighbourhood. He was promptly nabbed much to his own discomfort and taken to No. 2, Police Station. The case was remanded.

A DARING armed robbery was committed at Tai Loong village, in the New Territories, shortly before midnight on Saturday last. A gang of miscreants, who had evidently had their eye on a certain house in the village, determined to make a raid when all the menfolk were absent. They climbed up a water-spout and breaking open the window they entered the house. At the time there were five women in the house and these were secured and pillaged. The desperadoes ransacked the premises and stole goods, including jewelry and money, to the value of \$400. The police authorities are investigating.

It appears that eleven men altogether have been arrested in connection with the forgery of rouble notes in Nagasaki. Five of them are Russians, five Japanese and one Chinese. There are rumours that some Russian officers on the active list are connected with the fraud. The gang entrusted the duty of preparing the counterfeit notes to a well-known engraver of Soya, but it does not appear that he has been arrested, though the printers in Nagasaki are now lying in prison. The initiation is said to be so perfect that the notes can scarcely be distinguished from genuine paper. The part taken by the Chinese, who is under arrest, was to put the notes in circulation at Chefoo, and he seems to have been very successful. A thousand notes of 10 rouble denomination were seized at the printer's establishment in Nagasaki but it is thought that about 10,000 counterfeit notes have been successfully put into circulation at Chefoo.

PHILATELISTS may be interested to learn that two more values of the Russian present issue, have been surcharged Kitai, for use at Chinese Treaty ports, I. R. Post Offices, viz.—The 15 kopeks and 25 kopeks. They have already been overprinted and will be on sale at Tientsin directly.

LAST Saturday morning, in the Police Court, Chan Hip Shun, an accountant, of 62, Wellington Street, was charged before Mr. J. H. Kemp with destroying and altering certain books with the intention of defrauding his employer—Mak Ching Pong. Accused pleaded not guilty, and the case was remanded.

A VLADIVOSTOK message to Japanese papers says:—The Russo-Chinese Bank has decided to extend its business widely under the control of the Russian Ministry of Finance, and will advance money to corn dealers in North Manchuria. For this purpose the head office and branches have been reorganised.

It is reported from Peking that a movement is on foot to amalgamate the Grand Council with the Grand Council. As a matter of fact the present time would be the most favourable for the proposed amalgamation in that three of the six grand secretaries are also members of the Grand Council, viz.—Chang Chih-tung, Na Tung and Shih Shu.

We understand that Mr. Matsukata, president of the Kawasaki Dockyard Company, who was offered the post of Chairman of the Kobe Chamber of Commerce, but declined the offer owing to pressure of business, has at last been persuaded to accept the post. The office has remained vacant since the resignation of Mr. Kishimoto, president of the Kishimoto Bank, some time ago.

A SEUL dispatch to the *Osaka Mainichi* states that the torpedo-boat No. 12, which arrived at Chemulpo on the 5th instant, brought news that torpedo-boat No. 31, on her way from Tsushima to Chemulpo, encountered a violent storm in the Korea Channel on the 3rd instant, and the Captain, Chief Engineer, and two men were washed overboard. The two officers were rescued, but the men were not recovered.

REPAIRS to the first-class cruiser *Aio* (late *Japan*) have been completed, the vessel proceeded from Maizuru to Miyazu Bay on the 27th ultimo, and engaged in firing practice. In the course of the operations the crew of one of the guns were electrocuted, one man being killed instantly, while two others were severely injured. The firing operations were suspended and the cruiser at once proceeded to the Maizuru Naval Station where the injured men were placed in hospital. The cause of the accident remains obscure.

No mercy is being shown nowadays to those people, who, to all intents and purposes, make a living by running gambling houses. On the night of the 18th inst. the police engineers two raids, and a number of men were captured. Detective Sergeant J. J. Watt removed twelve men from 2, George Lane at about nine o'clock, and about the same hour Inspector McHardy secured twenty-four gamblers at 51, Cooke Street, Hongkong. At the Police Court, on the 19th, the two singleaders were fined \$50 and \$100 each respectively, while the gamblers were ordered to pay \$5 apiece.

WAN FU and Chung Kwok were once bosom chums, but they have fallen out now. Wan was at the time unemployed—now he is working for the Government. Chung is a seaman waiting for employment. Let it be said once that Chung objects to any mysterious business, especially legions. While the two were out walking one afternoon Chung discovered that his watch and chain had disappeared. He made a noise, of course, and Wan was ordered to turn out his pockets. This he refused to do, until finally he had to submit to being searched by a policeman, and the missing articles were found. Wan is doing three weeks' in gaol.

AN open letter has been sent to the various Chinese newspapers in Shanghai for publication in the name of the gentry and people of the city and district of Suchien, Kiangpoh (Northern Kiangsu). The letter states that all the crops in the northern portion of Suchien district have been eaten up by swarms of locusts and that yamé "runners" sent by the district Magistrate (Chibbién) instead of helping the farmers to destroy the pest, take the opportunity to impose upon and extort from the people already redden almost destitute by the locust visitation. This makes matters worse for that region is the fact that the young locusts are getting able to use their wings and fears are entered that the devastation that will be caused by them will spread throughout Northern Kiangsu unless aid be given to stamp out the pest.

AS already reported, the depression in the sales of refined sugar consequent upon the inactivity in trade since last year has prompted the Dai Nippon, Yokohama, and Kobe Sugar Refining Companies to come to a mutual arrangement to reduce the output, and this has been done into practice since May 1st last. But business failed to show an improvement even in summer, when a large demand usually arises, and the sales amounted to only about 70 per cent. of those for last year. The stock of sugar in the warehouses of the three companies at the end of July amounted to ¥10,000,000 in value, against ¥6,000,000 at the end of April. In consequence the three companies have formed a Trust for the sale of sugar, and have been considering measures to improve the situation. In

HONGKONG AVERAGE MARKET PRICES.

Corrected 10th September, 100 cts. per 5 Mx.

BUTCHER-MEAT.

	Cents.
Beef sirloin & prime cut—Mei Lung Pa	18
" Corned—Ham Ngau Yuk	18
" Roast—Shio	18
" Breast—Ngau Lum	13
" Soup—Tong Yuk	15
" Steak—Ngau Yuk Pa	18
" Sirloin—Ngau Lau	28
" Sausages—Ngau Yuk Chung	26
Bullock's Brains— " Know	10
" Tongue fresh—Ngau Li	58
" Corned—Ham Ngau Li	58
" Head—Ngau Tau	80
" Heart—Ngau Sum	12
" Hump, Salt—Ngau Kin	16
" Feet—Ngau Keok	7
" Kidneys—Ngau Yiu	10
" Tail—Ngau Mei	17
" Liver—Ngau Con	12
" Tripe (undressed)—Ngau To	7
Calves' Head and Feet—Ngau-chai-tau-keok	100
Mutton Chop—Yeung Pui Kwat	22
" Leg—Yeung Pui	20
" Shoulder—Yeung Shau	20
Pigs' Chlings—Chi cheong	24
" Brains—Chi Know	12
" Feet—Chi Keok	12
" Fry—Chi Chak	18
" Head—Chi Tau	14
" Heart—Chi Sum	10
" Kidneys—Chi Yiu	10
" Liver—Chi Kon	7
Pork Chop—Chi Pui Kwat	22
" Corned—Ham Chu Yuk	18
" Leg—Chu Pui	17
" Fat or Lard—Chu Yau	17
Sheep's Head and Feet—Yeung Tau	50
" Keok	50
" Heart—Yeung Sum	6
" Kidneys—Yeung Yiu	10
" Liver—Yeung Con	22

POULTRY.

Chicken—Kai Chai	28
Ospans, Large, Small—Sin Kai	30
Ducks—Ap	18
Doves—Pan Kai	18
Eggs, Hen—Kai Tan	26
Fowls, Canton—Kai	32
" Hainan—Hoi Nam Kai	27
Geese—Ngo	20
Geese, Wild Shanghai—Sheung Hoi Ye	20
" Ngo	20
Musk Deer—Wong Keng	each
Hare—Tu Chai	each
Partridge—Che Khoo	70
Pheasant—Shan Kai	each
Pigeons, Canton—Pak Kup	each
" Hoihow—Hoihow Pak Kup	each
Quail—Um Chun	each
Rice Birds—Wo Fa Cheuk	each
Salpae—Sa Chai	each
Turkeys, Cock—Fo Kai Kung	per lb
" Hen— " Na	45
Wild Ducks, Shanghai, Sulap	pair
Teal, Shanghai, Sulap	pair
Wild Ducks Canton—Sung Shing Sui	pair
" Ap	pair

FISH.

Barbel—Ka Yu	12
Bream—Bin Yu	18
Canton Fresh Water Fish—Hoi Sin Yu	16
Carp—Li Yu	23
Catfish—Chik Yu	9
Godfish—Mun Yu	15
Grabs—Hal	23
Gutle Fish—Muk Yu	13
Dab—Sa Mang Yu	12
Dace—Wong Mei Lun	9
Dog Fish—Titi Tu Sa	8
Kels, Conger—Hal Man Yu	14
" Fresh water—Tam Sui Yu	14
" Yellow—Wong Sin	32
Frogs—Tien Kai	53
Gardons—Sak Pan	53
Gardons—Pak Kip Yu	53
Heviage—Tao Pak	24
Hallbut—Cheung Kwan Yu	18
Labrus—Wong Fa Yu	30
Loach—Wu Yu	40
Lobsters—Lung Ha	38
Mackerel—Chi Yu	18
Mullet—Chai Yu	24
Oysters—Sung Hoo	13
Pomfret—Kai Kung Yu	13
Perch—Tao Loo	27
Pike—Fa Paw Poong	23
Plaice—Pan Yu	23
Pomfret, Black—Hak Chong	38
Pomfret, White—Pak Chong	38
Prawns—Ming Ha	50
Ray—Pai Pa Sa	7
Rock Fish—Sak Kan Kung	16
Rock—Glan Yu	16
Salmon, (Oman) fresh water—Ma Yau	16

CENTS.

Shark—Sa Yu	8
Skate—Po Yu	8
Springs—Ma	28
Snapper—Lap Yu	28
Sole—Tat Sa Yu	22
Touch—Wan Yu	24
Turbot—Cho Hoi Yu	22
Turtles, small, fresh water—Keok Yu	60
White Bait—Ngau Yu Chai	—

FRUITS.

Almond—Hung Yan	28
Apples, (California)—Kam San Ping	20
" (Chafco)—Tin Chun Ping	15
" Ko	15
" Small—Hoi Tong	7
" Custard—Fan Lai Chi	7
Bananas, fragrant, Canton—Sung Sheng	5
" Heung Chiu	6
" (brides), Macao—San Heung Chiu	12
Chestnuts, Chinese—Foong Lut	12
Carambola—Yeung Tou	10
Cocoanuts—Yeh Tse	24
Grapes—Sin Tai Tse	6
Lemons, China—Ning Moong	7
" Amer.—Kum Sad Ning Moong	20
Lichees, Small Stone—Lai Chi Con	—
" Fresh—Lai Chi	—
Limes, (Saigon)—Sai Kung Ning	6
Mango, Manila—Lui Sung Moong	—
Mango, Saigon—Sai Kung Moong	—
Mangosteen, San Chuk Tse per 100	\$3.00
Oranges, Tim Chang	5
" Small—Tai Kut	—
" Mandarin—Tim Kut	—
Olives—Pak Lam	8
Pineapples, Large—Hung Chio	8
Pineapples, 1st quality—Sheung Poon	10
Pineapples, 2nd quality—Chung-tang	6
Platains—Tai Chiu	3
Pumpkins, Swatow—Hung Lai	12
Pumpkins, Siam—Chim Lo Yau	12
Walnuts, Hop Tse	15
" Green—Sung Hop Tse	—
Shanghai Lo Kwat	—

VEGETABLES, &c.

Artichokes, Shanghai—Sheung Hoi Ah	8
" Chi Chuk	8
Beans, (French) Macao—Oh Moon Pin	15
Beans, (French), Shanghai—Sheung Hoi	12
Beans, Sprout—Ah Chai	4
Beans, Long—Tau Kok	7
Beet Root—Hung Chai Tau	each
Brijals, Green—Cheung Yuen Ker	5
Brijals, Red—Hung Ker	5
Brassica—Pak Choi	4
Bamboo Shoots—Chook Shun	3
Cabbage, Chinese, com.—Kai Choy	4
Cabbage, Red—Kai Lan Tau	each
Cabbage, (Shanghai)—Yeh Chai	20
Cane Shoots, bunch—Kau Shun	—
Cauliflower, Large size—Tai Yeh Chai	—
" Fa	—
Cauliflower, Medium size—Cheung Yeh	—
" Chai-fa	—
Cauliflower, Small size—Sai Yeh Chai-fa	10
Carrots—Kam Shun	6
Celery, Chinese—Tong Kan Choy	6
Celery, English—Yeung Kan Chai	—
Celery, White—Pak Yeung Kan Chai	—
Chillies, Dried—Con Lat Chai	10
" Red—Hueg Fa	8
" Green—Cheng Lat Chiu	8
Curry Stuffs—English—Ka Lee Choi Liu	8
Cucumbers—Cheng Kwa	5
Bitter Squash—Fu Kwa	5
Garlic—Suen Tau	7
Ginger, young—Sun Tse Keung	5
" old—Lo Keung	5
Horse Radish, Shanghai—Lik Kan	25
Indian Corn—Suk Mai	12
Lettuce—Yeung Sang Choi	each
Water Chestnuts—Ma Tai	10
" Mandarin—Kwei Lum Ma Tai	10
Musk Melon	40
Mushrooms, Fresh—Sung Cho Kho	40
Onions, Bombay—Yeung Chung Tau	6
" Green—Sung Chung	4
" Shal—Sheung Hoi Chung Tau	5
" Japan—Yat Poon	—
Okros—Mo Kor	—
Parley, English—Yeung Un Sai	\$3.00
Gradus Psa	15
Green Peas—Ohung Tau	15
Potatoes, Sweet—Fan Shu	3
" Shanghai—Shung Hoi Shu	3
" Tsal	3
" Japan—Yat Poon Shu Tsal	3
" American—Fa Ki	3
" Foochow—Fak Chau Shu Tsal	3
" Macao—Oh Moon	4
Pumpkin—Toong Kwa	4
Radish—Hung Lo Pak Tsal	5
Rhubarb	8
Shalots—Con Chung Tai	8
Spinage (Chinese)—Paw Chai	5
Spinage—Yin Chai	5
Tomatoes—Fan Ker	8
Taro—Wu Tau	3
Turnips, Pnn-ti (Long)—Low Pak	3
" Ehglah—Yeung Low Pak	3
Vegetable Marrow—Chit Kwa	4
Water Cresses—Sai Yeung Chai	10
" Galtrops—Lan Kok	—
" Lily Roots—Lia Ngau	—
Yams—Tai Shai	8

Sage	—
The prices necessarily vary from day to day,	—
and the Sanitary Board has no power to compel	—
stallholders to sell at the prices quoted.	—
A. GIBSON,	—
Secretary, Sanitary Board.	—

SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Supplied by Messrs. E. S. KAPLAN & Co. Connected in 1907, latest alterations given under "Commercial Intelligence" page 3.

STOCKS.	NO. OF SHARES.	VALUE.	PAID UP.	POSITION AS PER LAST REPORT RESERVE.	AT WORKING ACCOUNT.	LAST DIVIDEND.	APPROXIMATE RETURN AT PRESENT QUOTATION BASED ON LAST YEAR'S DIV.	CLOSING QUOTATIONS.
BANKS.								
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation	120,000	\$125	\$125	\$1,500,000 \$14,000,000 \$150,000	\$2,005,774	Interim of 2s for first half year @ ex 1/97—\$21.942	5 1/2 %	\$770 sales London 4/8
National Bank of China, Limited	99,925	£7	£6	\$4,000 \$150,000	\$10,323	2s (London 3/6) for 1903	—	\$50
MARINE INSURANCES.								
Ganton Insurance Office, Limited	10,000	\$250	\$50	\$1,500,000 \$210,000 \$401,059 \$125,000	none	2s for 1906	9 1/2 %	\$210 sales
North China Insurance Company, Limited	10,000	£15	£5	Tls. 100,000 Tls. 46,948	Tls. 304,424	Interim of 7/6 ex 3/5 for 1907	6 %	Tls. 80 buyers
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited	14,400	\$250	\$100	\$3,000,000 \$90,000 \$302,478 \$110,000 \$727,619 \$1,000,000 \$100,032 \$85,157	\$2,506,011	Final of 2s making 2s for 1906 and Interim of 5/6 for 1907	5 1/2 %	\$780 buyers
Yangtze Insurance Association, Limited	18,000	\$100	\$60	\$1,000,000 \$40,000 \$110,000 \$13,602 \$1,135,941	\$591,765	2s and bonus 3s for 1906	9 %	\$167 1/2 sellers
FIRE INSURANCES.								
Thien Fire Insurance Company, Limited	25,000	\$100	\$30	\$1,000,000 \$40,000 \$13,602	\$172,432	2s and bonus 2s for 1906	5 1/2 %	\$94 buyers
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited	8,000	\$250	\$50	\$1,135,941	\$128,027	2s for 1906	5 1/2 %	\$120 buyers
SHIPPING.								
China and Manila Steamship Company, Limited	30,000	\$25	\$25	\$7,000 \$204,038 \$99,017	\$1,035	2s for 1906	—	\$15
Douglas Steamship Company, Limited	20,000	\$50	\$50	\$20,000 \$37,500 \$17,000 \$17,055 \$10,000 \$24,000	Nil.	2s for year ending 30.6.1908	10 %	\$14 1/2 ex div.
Hongkong, Canton & Macao Steamboat Co., Ltd.	80,000	\$15	\$15	\$7,000 \$204,038 \$99,017 \$20,000 \$37,500 \$17,000 \$17,055 \$10,000 \$24,000	17,755	2s for first half year ending 30.6.1908	7 1/2 %	\$184 buyers
Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., Ltd. (Preferred)	60,000	£5	£5	\$1,000,000 \$24,000	£11,755	6s for 1907 on Preference shares only @ ex 1/9 11/16=5s, 15d	5 1/2 %	\$335
Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., Ltd. (Deferred)	60,000	£5	£5	\$1,000,000 \$24,000	£11,755	6s for 1907 on Preference shares only @ ex 1/9 11/16=5s, 15d	5 1/2 %	\$335
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	200,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 75,000 \$75,000 \$100,000 \$55,000 \$47,421	Tls. 14,510	Interim of Tls. 1/2 for account 1908	7 1/2 %	Tls. 47 sellers
Shell "Transport and Trading" Company, Limited	2,000,000	£1	£1	\$1,000,000 \$55,000 \$47,421	\$63,817	Final of 2s making 2s for 1907 and Interim of 1/2 (No. 10) for a/c 1908	6 1/2 %	Tls. 51 buyers
"Star" Ferry Company, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$10	Tls. 140,000 Tls. 60,255 Tls. 203,000 Tls. 110,000 Tls. 47,142 \$34,538 \$56,848	\$98	2s for year ending 30.6.1908	4 1/2 %	\$35
Taku Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	30,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 100,000 Tls. 110,000 Tls. 47,142 \$34,538 \$56,848	Tls. 6,869	Final of Tls. 2s making Tls. 5 for 1907	11 %	Tls. 45 buyers
REFINERIES.								
Hina Sugar Refining Company, Limited	10,000	\$100	\$100	none	Dr. \$279,871	2s for year ending 31.12.07	—	\$125
Indo-Sugar Refining Company, Limited	7,000	\$100	\$100	none	Dr. \$135,131	2s for year ending 31.12.07	—	\$28
Indo-Sugar Cultivation Company, Limited	7,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 100,000	Tls. 9,171	2s for year ending 31.12.07	—	Tls. 50 buyers
MINING.								
Chinese Engineering and Mining Company, Ltd.	1,000,000	£1	£1	\$1,500,000 \$12,889	£11,556	Interim of 1/6 (No. 10) for account 1908	7 1/2 %	Tls. 16
Sub Australian Gold Mining Company, Limited	50,000	£1	£1	\$4,873	Dr. £2,191	No. 12 of 1/4=48 cents	—	\$74
DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.								
Swick (Geo.) & Co., Limited	18,000	\$15	\$15	\$53,601	\$3,726	2s for year ending 31.12.07	—	\$12
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd.	60,000	\$10	\$10	\$10,000 \$26,856 \$40,000	\$1,556	Final of 2s making 2s for 1907	7 %	\$50
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Ltd.	50,000	\$10	\$10	\$76,19 \$103,000	\$84,847	Interim of 2s for account 1907	8 1/2 %	\$95
Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Ltd.	55,700	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 1,000,000 Tls. 697,257 Tls. 75,000 Tls. 125,000	Tls. 33,742	Final of Tls. 2s making in all Tls. 5 for year ending 30.6.1908	6 %	Tls. 86
Shanghai and Hongkong Wharf Company, Limited	35,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 1,000,000 Tls. 125,000	Tls. 12,626	Interim of Tls. 4 for account 1908	10 %	Tls. 164 buyers
LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDINGS.								
Anglo-French Land Investment Co., Ltd.	25,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 25,000	Tls. 6,431	Tls. 6 for 1907	6 %	Tls. 100 sales
Star House Hotel Company, Limited (Shanghai)	50,000	\$25	\$25	\$30,000	Dr. 4,210	2s for year ending 30.6.07	—	\$17 sellers
Central Stores, Limited	50,000	\$15	\$15	\$1,000,000 \$104,975	4,178	2s for 1906	—	\$17 sellers
Hongkong Hotel Company, Limited	12,000	\$50	\$50	\$32,000	\$14,639	Interim of 2s for account 1908	9 1/2 %	\$77
Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Ltd.	50,000	\$100	\$100	\$350,000 \$217,426 \$50,000	\$30,915	Interim of 2s for account 1908	7 1/2 %	\$94
Compreys Estate & Finance Company, Limited	150,000	\$10	\$10	\$50,000	\$4,621	2s for 1907	7 1/2 %	\$9 buyers
Kowloon Land and Building Company, Limited	6,000	\$50	\$50	none	1653	2s for 1907	6 1/2 %	\$27
Shanghai Land Investment Company, Limited	78,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 1,533,045 Tls. 170,000	Tls. 107,147	Interim of Tls. 3 for account 1908	7 %	Tls. 173 buyers
Vest Point Building Company, Limited	12,500	\$50	\$50	none	\$1,541	Interim of 2s for account 1908	9 %	\$46
COTTON MILLS.								
Wo Cotton Spinning and Weaving Company, Ltd.	15,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 150,000	Dr. 8,507	Tls. 2s for year ended 31.12.1907	4 %	Tls. 631 buyers
Hongkong Cotton Spinning, Weaving and Dyeing Company, Limited	125,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,000,000 \$50,000	\$14,269	50 cents for year ending 31.12.07	4 1/2 %	\$22
International Cotton Manufacturing Company, Ltd.	10,000	Tls. 75	Tls. 75	Tls. 150,000	Tls. 55,119	Tls. 6 for year ended 30.6.08 (8 %)	—	Tls. 6 sales
Loan-hung-mow Cotton Spinning & Weaving Co., Ltd.	8,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	none	Tls. 6,308	Tls. 8 for 1906	—	Tls. 85 buyers
Yee Chai Cotton Spinning Company, Limited	2,000	Tls. 500	Tls. 500	Tls. 25,257	Tls. 10,063	Tls. 50 for 1906	—	Tls. 247 sellers
MISCELLANEOUS.								
China Eastern Agency, Limited	8,604	12/6	12/6	\$1,500	£148	10s per share for 1907—\$1.037	13 1/2 %	\$74 sales
China Borneo Company, Limited	60,000	\$12	\$12	\$25,000	Na.	2s for 1907	11 1/2 %	\$104
China Light and Power Company, Limited	50,000	\$10	\$10	none	\$25,000	60 cents for year ended 31.12.06	—	\$64
China Do. special shares	50,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,000,000 \$120,000 \$50,000	\$25,000	80 cents for 1907	8 1/2 %	\$94 sales
China Provident Loan & Mortgage Company, Ltd.	125,000	\$10	\$10	\$1,000,000 \$50,000	\$8,592	\$1.30	—	\$20 sales
Dairy Farm Company, Limited	25,000	\$7 1/2	\$6	\$1,000,000 \$5,000	\$2,074	2s for year ending 31.7.07	6 1/2 %	\$20 sales
Green Island Cement Company, Limited	400,000	\$10	\$10	\$12,000	\$5,078	Interim of 40 cents for account 1908	12 1/2 %	\$10 sales
H. Price & Company, Limited	12,000	\$10	\$10	\$5,000	\$451	75 cents for 9 months ending 31.12.07	8 %	\$12 buyers
Hall & Hois, Limited	21,000	\$20	\$20	\$185,000	18,957	2s for year ending 31.12.08	10 %	\$20 sales
Hongkong Electric Company, Limited	60,000	\$10	\$10	none	\$9,311	2s and bonus 20 cts. for year ending 29.12.08	6 1/2 %	\$19
Hongkong Ice Company, Limited	5,000	\$25	\$25	\$120,000	\$4,578	Interim of 2s for account 1907	8 1/2 %	\$23
Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company, Ltd.	60,000	\$10	\$10	none	\$5,191	Interim of 2s for account 1908	8 %	\$25
Maatschappij tot Mijn- en Landbouw- exploitatie in Langkat, Limited	25,000	Ga. 100	Ga. 100	Tls. 147,500 Tls. 27,603	Tls. 17,157	Interim of Tls. 1s for 2nd quarter	5 1/2 %	Tls. 635 buyers
Peak Tramways Company, Limited	25,000	\$10	\$10	\$5,000	\$7,471	80 cents on fully paid shares and 6 cents on 1/2 paid shares for year ending 30.6.08	6 1/2 %	\$14
Peak Tramways Company (new)	50,000	\$10	\$10	none	Nil.	2s for year ending 31.12.07	4 %	\$2
Philippine Company, Limited	75,000	\$10	\$10	none	Nil.	2s for year ending 31.12.07	—	\$2
Shanghai Gas Company, Limited	24,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 100,000	Tls. 6,603	Final of Tls. 4 making Tls. 7 1/2 for 1907	6 1/2 %	Tls. 117 buyers
Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco Company, Limited	30,000	Tls. 20	Tls. 20	Tls. 24,520 Tls. 75,000	Tls. 8,493	Final of Tls. 9 making in all Tls. 14 for 1907	13 %	Tls. 109 sales
Shanghai Waterworks Company, Limited	16,350	£20	£20	Tls. 190,000	Tls. 58,332	Final of 3/16 making 2s 1/2 for 1907	—	Tls. 400
South China Morning Post, Limited	6,000	\$25	\$25	none	Dr. \$90,217	40 cents for year ending 31.12.07	6 1/2 %	\$25
Team Laundry Company, Limited	20,000	\$5	\$5	none	1478	2s for year ending 31.12.07	—	\$25
Central Waterworks Company, Limited	2,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 15,295 Tls. 4,000	Tls. 201	Tls. 6 for year ending 30.6.07	4 1/2 %	Tls. 100
Union Waterboat Company, Limited	50,000	\$10	\$10	none	\$113	50 cents for 1907	4 1/2 %	\$105
United Asbestos Oriental Agency, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$4	\$15,000	\$1,360	20 cents on 9,000 ord. shares and \$10.80 on 100 1/2 ord. shares for yr. end. 31.5.07	6 1/2 %	\$13
Watson, (A. S.) & Co., Limited	95,000	\$10	\$10	\$100,000 \$15,000	16,438	Final of 30 cts. making 3s making 60 cents for year ending 31.12.07	6 %	\$10
William Powell, Limited	15,000	\$10	\$10	none	141	Final of 30 cts. making 80 cts. for the year ended 30th June, 1907	—	\$5 sales
* These shares are entitled to half of the profits ...								
DIVIDENDS PAYABLE:—								
Hongkong Cotton Spinning, W. and D. Co.								50 cts. September 26th